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VOLUME XVIII, NUMBER 4

KITCHENS & BATHS

Features



BATHS

on the cover



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For story, see page 58.


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Departments & Articles

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EDITOR'S NOTE



Out Is In

Despite the fantastic, do-everything ovens and cooktops that help make our kitchens the most inviting room in the house, there's still a certain satisfaction—not to mention fun—that comes from preparing a meal outdoors.

Whether your grill skills are in a class with Steve Raichlen or Bobby Flay and your backyard kitchen comprises a full complement of pro-quality appliances, or if you prefer the simplicity of rolling out a basic charcoal barbecue on weekends, there is plenty of new equipment that's sure to fire up your enthusiasm for cooking alfresco. Beginning on page 54, editor Lindsay Damast rounds up some of the season's most innovative designs for grills and outdoor ovens. On page 90, John Loecke presents experts' advice and inspiration on how to create the fresh-air kitchen that's just right for you, your home and your entertaining style.



90

Of course, if you're using the summer months to redo your indoor kitchen, you'll find plenty of creative ideas in this issue to help with that process—but I hope you'll still find time to enjoy flipping a few burgers outside!



Leslie

Leslie Plummer Clagett
Editor

PHOTOGRAPH: ABOVE, JOE POLILLIO HAIR AND MAKEUP: BATA

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Carla Jordan, Mervyn Kaufman, Judi Kettler, John Loecke, Jeannie Matteucci, Theresa McTammany, Suzanne Morrissey, Ginevra Pylant, Nancy A. Ruhling, Julie Taraska, Cheryl Weber, Courtnay Walsh, Rachel Young

Editorial and Advertising Offices:
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In Remembrance

It is with profound sadness that we note the passing of our editor in chief, Olivia Monjo. Olivia poured abundant passion, energy, and talent into every story, every issue and every one of the 17 years she created magazines here at Hachette Filipacchi Media, and we will miss her.



Coming Up Next!



1-2-3 MEALS
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- Comfort food you can make in a flash
- Decadent desserts for every sweet tooth
- Great recipes for the grill
- Easy entrées



BUDGET DECORATING
On sale August 15

- Simple solutions to mix the old with the new
- Thrifty tricks for beautiful bedrooms
- Inspiring ideas to refresh your decor
- Tips for an organized bathroom

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J.V. Johnson & Associates, Inc.: **Manager** Brett B. Moore
Gardening and Entertainment Manager Rebecca Carrington,
30 Oneida Street, Oneonta, NY 13820
Tel.: 607-432-2219, Fax: 607-432-2130

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VP/Publisher Laurence E. Oberwager
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IDEA FILE

what's new

Noteworthy trends and great new products for kitchens and baths

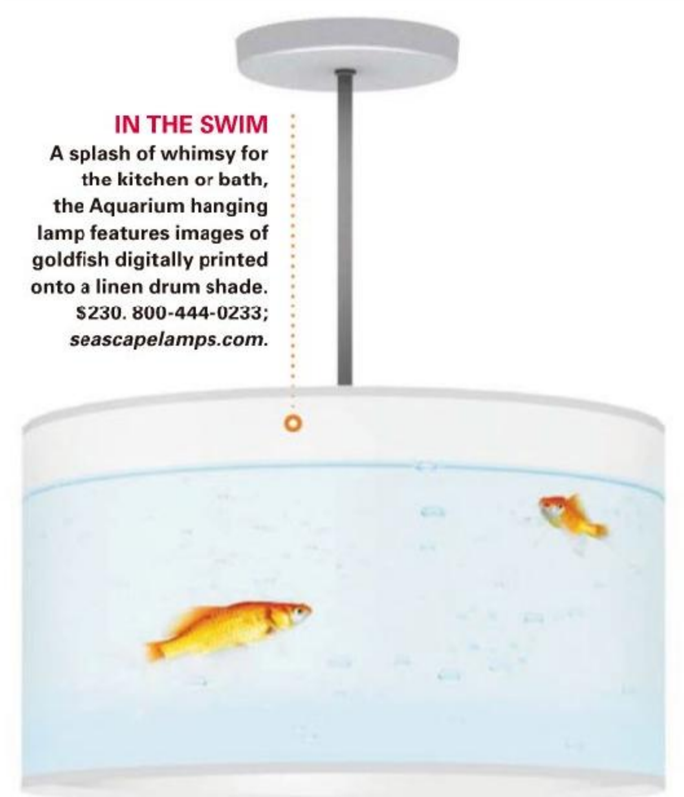
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BACK STORY

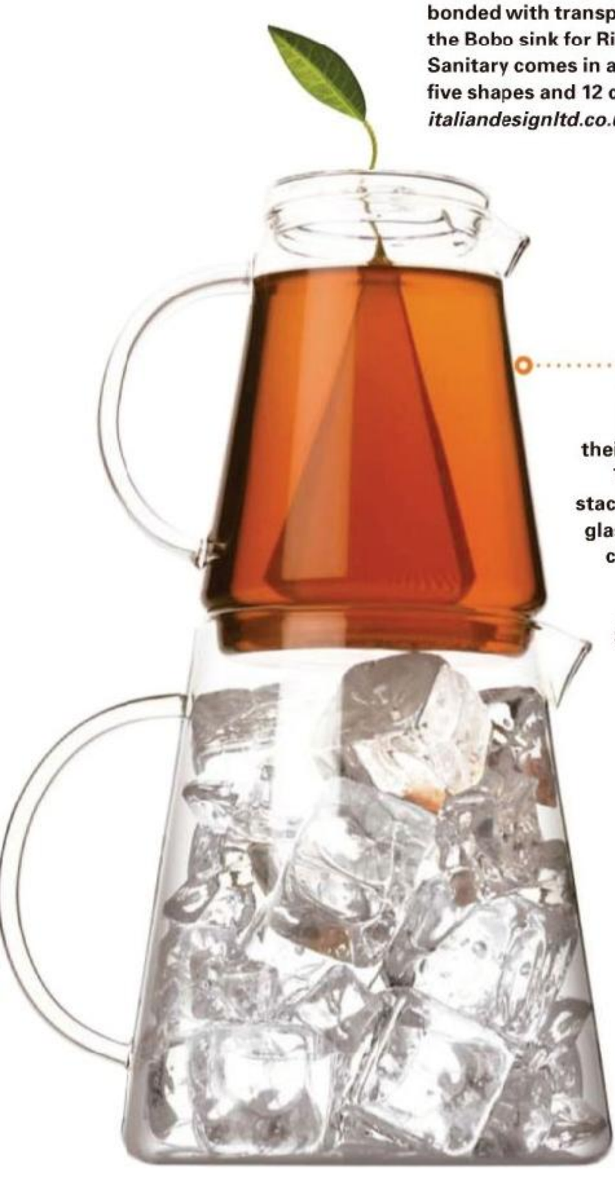
With their dark leather upholstery, brass tacks and ebony finish, these bar stools would be at home in a traditional gentleman's club. But turn them around for a surprise: Hand-painted back panels in a bright floral add a ladylike twist. $1,440. 866-388-7229; *tracyporter.com*.





IN THE SWIM
A splash of whimsy for the kitchen or bath, the Aquarium hanging lamp features images of goldfish digitally printed onto a linen drum shade. $230. 800-444-0233; *seascapelamps.com.*

LIKE A ROCK
Made from marble pebbles bonded with transparent resin, the Bobo sink for Riverstone Sanitary comes in a choice of five shapes and 12 colors. $880. *italiandesignltd.co.uk.*



ICE ICE, BABY
Eighty percent of Americans prefer their tea chilled. With Tea Over Ice's two stackable, handblown glass containers, you can cool your brew quickly without diluting its flavor. $40. 800-721-1149; *teaforte.com.*

SCREENING ROOM
Create the look of custom-etched glass. Brume's opaque vinyl window films provide privacy and security without sacrificing natural light—and there are more than four dozen designs to choose from. From $47. *brume.co.uk.* →







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IDEA FILE



BAG IT
Keep your vegetables on display—and keep them fresher longer—with these 100 percent cotton storage bags. Or use them to tote home produce from the farmers' market. Choose carrots, radishes, leeks or beetroot. $26 to $36. *re-foundobjects.com*.



NOTHING FISHY
Nature serves as inspiration for Abyss & Habidecor's new line of handmade bath mats, with options including Koi (pictured), pebbles, roses and seashells. $225. *abysshabidecor.com*.

NOW SERVING
Outdoor entertaining is easy with the durable and lightweight Longborough Cottage tea cart. The wicker-and-aluminum unit features a removable tray and a bottle bin; its front legs are fitted with casters, so you can wheel it almost anywhere. $750. 800-469-0118; *charlestongardens.com*. ◆



rule breaker Mick De Giulio goes against the grain

WRITTEN BY JUDI KETTELER



The new rule in kitchen design is that there are no more rules, according to Chicago-based kitchen designer Mick De Giulio. This showplace kitchen, which he designed as part of his BeauxArts collection for German kitchen manufacturer SieMatic, is an example of how classic and modern can blend seamlessly together.



Q&A

◆ **THERE'S A LOT GOING ON IN THIS SPACE. WHY DOES THIS KITCHEN WORK?** It's a personality-driven kitchen, rather than something that stays within "the rules." People like something interesting in a kitchen, something with a mixed vocabulary, and this kitchen is a great example of that.

◆ **YET IT STILL FEELS RESTRAINED. HOW DID YOU PULL IT OFF?** We kept the palette classic and stuck to materials that have a long life, such as wood (light oak and maple) and some stainless steel elements. The white-lacquer finish brings a modern feel to the cabinets. We also used subtle contrasts in the cabinet styles and hardware, like the fine beaded cabinets with classic cup-handle pulls by the range set against the flat panel cabinets with more modern-looking pulls on the other side.

◆ **WHAT ARE THE STANDOUT ELEMENTS OF THE KITCHEN?** I love the hand-hewn Chinese wedding cabinet—it's actually an armoire that holds the fridge and freezer—and the way the rough quality of the wood blends with the smooth, white magnolia cabinets with modern drawers.

◆ **IN A KITCHEN LIKE THIS, YOU MIGHT EXPECT TO SEE A TRENDIER COUNTERTOP. WHY GO WITH A CLASSIC LIKE GRANITE?** The typical high-polished granite has been overused in kitchens for 30 years; nonetheless, granite is durable and beautiful, and we wanted to use it, so we had to rethink it. We did a brushed finish; it's an undulating finish, so it gives it a raw, organic stone quality—almost like slate. ◆

earth-friendly news

WRITTEN BY COURTNAY WALSH

Fluid retention

Think Energy Star for plumbing products: Look for the WaterSense label on products such as toilets and faucets that are 20 percent more water-efficient and perform as well as or better than conventional models. Bathroom faucets have a maximum flow-rate of 1.5 gallons per minute, and toilets flush using no more than 1.28 gallons (without sacrificing performance). *epa.gov/watersense.*



Clean Composting

Odors begone! NatureMill's colorful array of composters fit under your sink (or in a cabinet) and use a carbon filter for a fresher-smelling kitchen. They hold up to 60 pounds of food and paper waste, with compost ready every two weeks. In six colors, including red, blue and, of course, green. $299; $399 for Pro model. *naturemill.com.*



Small Changes big results

Ecologically sound living is made easy with *A Guide to Green Housekeeping* (Cico Books, 2008). Author Christina Strutt offers old-fashioned methods and innovative ideas for green cleaning. Did you know simple household baking soda can be used for scouring, cleaning and deodorizing?

Cooler Water



Aquaovo, creator of the Ovopur water filter, is working to make the ungainly water cooler obsolete. Made of porcelain, glass and metal, Ovopur's sleek egg-shape housing eases the circulation of water, using gravity instead of electricity to revitalize tap water. It uses a reusable filter cartridge and holds almost three gallons. $560. 888-704-1308; *aquaovo.com.*

Unclog a Bad Rep

TerraCycle's Natural Drain Maintainer and Cleaner is out to freshen up the strongly corrosive, ecologically unfriendly reputation of drain products. EPA-recognized and part of the Eco-Options line at The Home Depot, this product unclogs drains using a special type of bacteria. And, its packaging (a reused 2-liter soda bottle) is 100 percent recycled. *terracycle.net.*


Inspiration comes from all sorts of places. We get ours from our backyard.
Italy has long been an inspiration for artists. So it's no surprise that even Best engineers would be moved to create here. And create they do – from range and island hoods to inserts. All carefully steeped in striking, yet simple Italian design. Design you yourself may find just a little bit inspiring.
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clean living

Storage solutions for the bathroom

WRITTEN BY GINEVRA PYLANT



1



2



3



4



6

1 GLASS ACT
Mirrored étagère. $450. 800-322-1189; *jcpenney.com*.

2 DENTAL HYGIENE
Grassy organizer. $10. 800-387-5122; *umbra.com*.

3 CLOTHES CASE
Foldable laundry hamper. $22. 800-600-9187; *organize.com*.

4 TOP IT OFF
Bathroom space saver. $100. 800-591-3869; *target.com*.

5 HIGH WIRE
Visen towel stand. $18. 800-434-4532; *ikea.com*.

6 SHELF LIFE
Storage shelf with doors. $100. 800-606-6255; *cb2.com*.

tidy *tips*

If keeping your bathroom in order seems like a lost cause, don't throw in the towel. Laura Leist, founder of Eliminate Chaos (*eliminatechaos.com*), offers these helpful hints.

- **COUNTER ATTACK** Wage war against products taking up precious counter space. If it isn't used daily, stash it elsewhere.
- **MAKEUP BREAKUP** Face it. It's time you parted ways with the hot pink lipstick, aqua eye shadow and all of the other cosmetics you never use.
- **GLASS MENAGERIE** Corral hard-to-store items—nail clippers, tweezers and brushes—upright in clear cups inside your medicine cabinet.
- **TAKE STOCK** Follow the Noah's Ark principal: Store no more than two of any type of product in your shower. ◆



5


Blackouts are his chance to shine.
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The rain is pounding, the winds are howling and the power lines are down. But when you have a propane-powered standby generator, you won't be left in the dark for long. From furnace to fridge, a propane generator will quickly restore power to your entire home–even in the worst conditions. Plus, propane generators release fewer greenhouse gases than diesel or gasoline. To learn more about how a propane generator can keep your family safer and our environment cleaner, visit usepropane.com.
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WRITTEN BY LINDSAY DAMAST

58 percent of homeowners would rather have more storage space than a swimming pool.

(Lifetime Products)



We're projected to spend **$118 billion** on kitchen and bath projects in 2008.

(2007 Market Forecaster Report)

Install a low-flow showerhead and conserve around **550** gallons per month.

(Environmental Protection Agency)

176,313,455 Americans say the kitchen is their favorite room in the home.

(Electrolux)

9 of 10 moms are **stressed** out about disorganization in their homes.

(DYMO labeling solutions)

Cleanliness is next to...?



63% of us shower at least once a day.

(Moen)

The average family does *8 to 10* hefty loads of laundry every week.

(Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers)

EACH DAY, THE WORLD FLUSHES **100,000,000** ROLLS OF TOILET PAPER.

(National Kitchen & Bath Association)

46% of consumers purchased new faucets for their kitchens last year.

(BrandBuzz for RICKI)

Though the yellow duck bath toy first squeaked in the mid-1800s, its popularity surged in 1970 when Ernie's **"Rubber Duckie"** song debuted on *Sesame Street*.

(Bath Room Stuff)



shower systems

WRITTEN BY JOHN LOECKE



HOT PICK

All the components of Brizo's Total Escape custom shower system, which include 6- and 10-inch ceiling-mount showerheads, slide bar, hand shower, body sprays and body jets, are sold individually and can be assembled in any configuration you can dream up. Finishes include polished chrome, brushed nickel and brushed bronze. About $3,700 as shown in polished chrome. *brizo.com*.

Individual style is all the rage. Kitchens, suits, even the fit of our Levis—we want everything to be customized. So it's only natural to want customized bath experiences, too. Major plumbing manufacturers have embraced this trend and have created a vast assortment of components—everything from oversize rain showerheads to pulsating body spays. Here's how to find the perfect system for you.

START SIMPLE

For a custom shower without a messy remodel, consider a shower tower. These all-in-one units with multiple showerheads, handheld sprays and body sprays in a single vertical box mount to the wall of your existing shower. It's a concept that started in Europe, where differences in home construction usually require plumbing to be installed outside rather than inside the wall, says American Standard's Gary Uhl. The only drawback to this type of system is space. "Towers stick out several inches from the wall," says Michael Wandschneider, marketing manager for Kohler bathing products. "Systems with individual components embedded in the wall offer a cleaner look."

PICK YOUR PIECES

For those planning a remodel, a sharper, completely custom look, with individual body sprays, a hand shower and a rain or standard showerhead, is the leading choice. Start with the showerhead. Options include a unit fixed to the wall and angled to spray down, or a ceiling-mounted head (or rain shower), which provides a steady sprinkling of water. Next, add a hand-shower. "It's a must," says Wandschneider. "It allows you to easily rinse your hair, and it makes it easier to clean the shower."

Body sprays can transform a shower experience from ordinary to spectacular. The point of body sprays is to provide a "whole-body drenching," says Uhl. They can be added individually or in pairs up to the maximum flow rate of the valve at the given water pressure. "Exceeding the capacity of the valve will lower the overall performance of the system," he says.

To determine if all those showerheads and body sprays will tax your system, add up the flow rates for each component and compare the total to the flow rate for the valve the sprays will be connected to. If needed, a plumber can help increase capacity.

Control valves govern both flow and temperature. Pressure-balancing valves automatically adjust the mix of hot and cold water to maintain a comfortable temperature even if water pressure changes due to, say, a toilet flush. Thermostatic valves perform the same task in response to shifts in hot and cold water temperatures.

For the ultimate shower experience, consider adding steam, light and music to your system. Like valves and body sprays, these components have to be purchased separately and then worked into the shower's configuration. All these amenities can make the installation more complicated. To simplify things, Kohler has linked them into a single digital control called DTV II. This small panel mounts inside or outside the shower and controls the whole system—water, sound, light and steam—via a touch screen.

HOT PICK

Give your shower a contemporary spin with Graff's new Luna wall-mount thermostatic shower system. Its sleek, distinctive arched arm features an adjustable head; there's also a matching hand shower. The unit is available in two finishes, polished chrome and satin nickel. About $4,450 in polished chrome. *graff-faucets.com*.



CONFIGURE IT OUT

You also need to consider how all the individual components will work together. Once again, start at the top. With the exception of ceiling-mounted rain units, the showerhead should be set at a level above the tallest user. The reason is simple: The tallest user should not have to duck to rinse their hair, says Wandschneider. Heads mounted on slide bars or on adjustable arms can be used to make a shower conform to users of varying height.

Next, think about body spray placement. The top-level spray should be set at shoulder or back height. If there's a chance that the spray could send a stream of water into the face of a smaller user, it should have its own control valve so there's an option to leave it off, says Uhl. Mid-level sprays fall at waist or hip level. The lowest sprays should aim at thighs or knees.

COMMON CONCERNS

"These systems, even preplanned designs, move a lot of water at high volume," says Wandschneider. "You need to make sure your current plumbing setup can handle the flow." Whether plans call for an all-in-one unit or a custom creation with dual showerheads and eight body sprays on two walls, consult a plumber or contractor on the following points before placing your order:

Volume: A standard showerhead uses 2.5 gallons of water per minute (GPM) or less. A custom system with multiple heads and sprays can use 15 GPM or more. "It's not just the volume," says Wandschneider, "it's also the size of your pipes—standard ½-inch or newer ¾-inch. Three-quarter-inch lines can move more water."



HOT PICK

The Hana, a new all-in-one wall-mounted shower system from Pulse Shower Spas, features an 8-inch diameter rain shower, multifunction hand shower with integrated slide bar, four body spray jets and a mirror. Unlike many tower systems, this one is semi-customizable: The body sprays are mounted on hinged wings that can be adjusted 180 degrees. About $840. *pulseshowerspas.com*.

Pressure: Standard showerheads are designed for 30 pounds per square inch (psi) of water pressure. Most custom systems require more than that. Grohe, for example, recommends 50 psi for a system with three or more outlets. If your pressure falls short, you may need a water booster pump for optimum shower performance.

Temperature: The bigger the system, the more hot water you'll need. A 50-gallon gas water heater will supply a four-outlet shower for about eight minutes. For many people, that's not nearly long enough, says Uhl, who suggests asking a plumber about adding a larger unit or even a tankless water heater. Here's a good rule of thumb: If two people cannot shower simultaneously, you need to upgrade.

Drainage: Drain capacity is critical, says Wandschneider. High-flow shower systems can put out up to 180 gallons of water in five minutes, with all that water needing a place to exit. A standard single-head system requires a 2-inch drain. Complex multihead systems can require two 2-inch drains or one 3-inch drain, says Uhl. →


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or call 1-800-bright ideas. LET THERE BE LIGHTING.
american lighting association

SHOP SMARTER



HOT PICK

The beauty of Grohe's Aquatower 3000 is that it's a complete multihead system in one easy-to-install package. For maximum flexibility, the system features Grohe's Relexa Plus Top 4 shower head with four distinct spray patterns: effervescent stream, pulsating massage, soft regular spray and wide hard spray. The four body sprays are direction- and volume-adjustable, as is the hand shower. Individual volume controls allow the body sprays to be used on their own or in combination with either the showerhead or hand shower. About $2,600 in chrome. *groheamerica.com*.

MONEY MATTERS

Whether you select an all-in-one system or elect to create your own, you will find that prices begin at around $500 for two valves and a showerhead, and top out at around $5,000 for a custom system for two complete with ceiling-mounted rain shower, two handheld showers, 10 body sprays and all the necessary valves and controls. Below is a quick overview of what you can expect to find at three price points:

good

$500 to $1,500

Easy does it in this category. Look for prepackaged systems that connect to your shower's existing water line, or scaled-back systems that require only minor replumbing by keeping body sprays to a maximum of two. At the upper end of this price range, look for more body sprays and added versatility through the introduction of adjustable shower bars and hand showers.

better

$1,500 to $2,500

If you're looking to step up spray power, this is where you should start looking. With tower systems, expect four body sprays, an adjustable showerhead and a hand shower with features like rain, massage and jet sprays. Component systems yield similar features, but you can install the individual heads and sprays wherever you like. Also, expect more choices in the look and finish of individual components. It's not uncommon to find preconfigured packages with two hand-helds, six body sprays and one generously proportioned showerhead. All components in this category should feature adjustable spray settings for a truly custom experience.

best

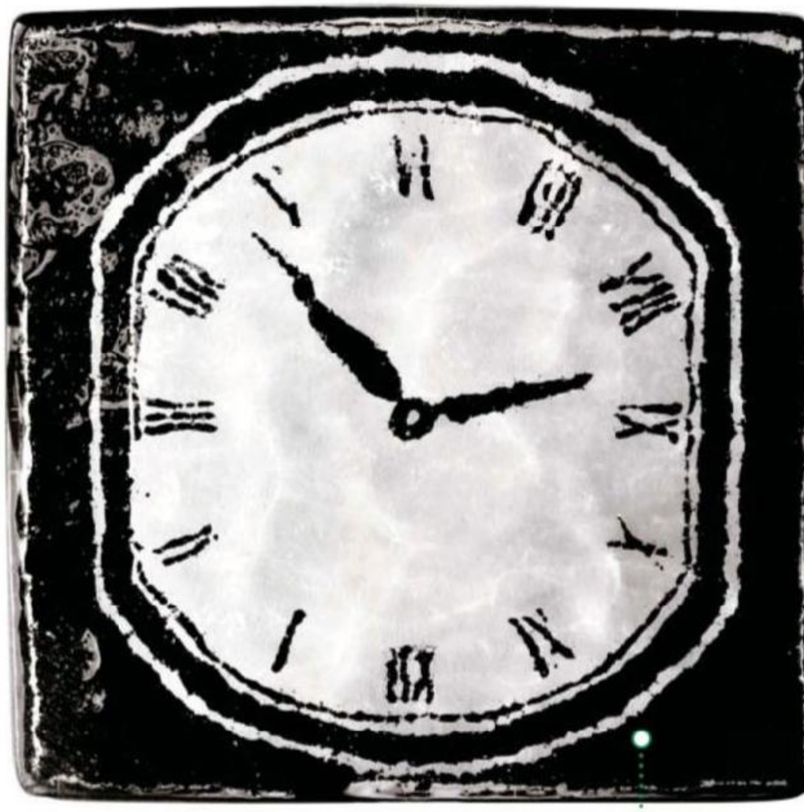
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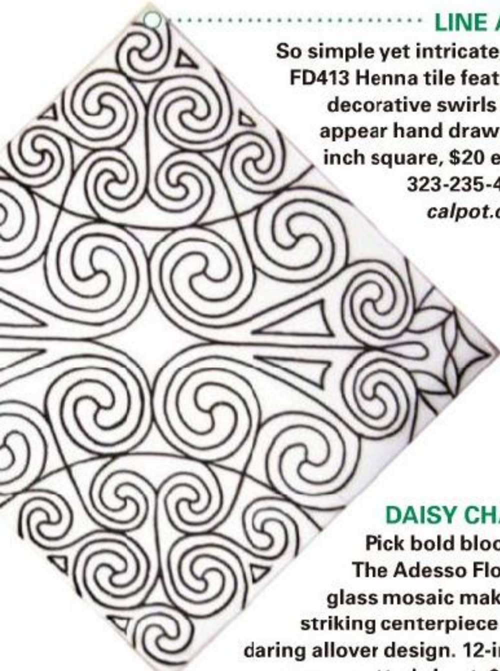
The sky is the limit in this category. As long as your home is equipped to handle the increased volume and water pressure these systems require, they will deliver an experience akin to a trip to a spa—especially if you opt for extras like steam, chromatherapy and stereo sound. ◆

opposites attractive

Black and white pair up in chic tiles

WRITTEN BY CARLA JORDAN





LINE ART
So simple yet intricate, the FD413 Henna tile features decorative swirls that appear hand drawn. 6-inch square, $20 each. 323-235-4151; *calpot.com.*

OPTICAL ILLUSION
Graphic circles seem to float on the surface of the New Malibu Full Moon tile. 1½×7¾-inch tile, $20 each. 704-676-0601; *auroratradingcompany.com.*

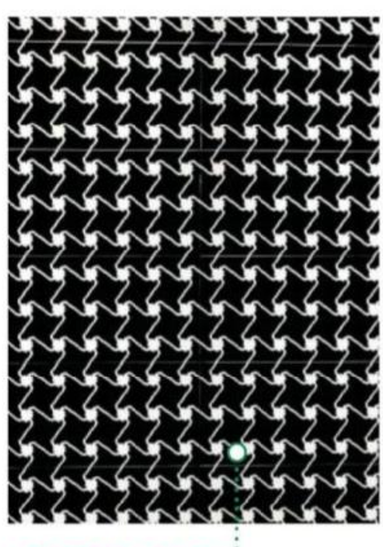
TIME STOPS
The Pastime glass tile has a texture and glaze that makes it shimmer and ripple like a watch held under water and frozen in mid-tick. 2-inch square, $3 each. 800-667-1566; *interstyle.ca.*



DAISY CHAIN
Pick bold blooms. The Adesso Flower glass mosaic makes a striking centerpiece or a daring allover design. 12-inch-square netted sheet, $106. 800-278-8453; *annsacks.com.*

NO WALLFLOWER
Anything but shy and retiring, Day and Night oversize tile makes a big impression. 10×16-inch tile, $5 each. 877-658-4872; *vitra-usa.com.* ◆







FASHION DRIVEN
Runway-inspired Neo Pop Le Petite Pied de Poule tile resembles a haute herringbone coat. 9½×28-inch tile, $45 each. *settecento.com.*

gray areas

Function and form meet in an industrial-inspired kitchen

WRITTEN BY RACHEL YOUNG

There are no fripperies or wasted spaces here. The clean lines and repeating shapes are a study in geometry. With its interplay of cool gray and silver tones, this kitchen stays on the right side of the line between sleekly modern and overly austere.



AIM HIGH

Shelves above the range hood repurpose a space that otherwise wouldn't have one. Still, a solid piece of shelving would be too distracting here. Wire shelves are airier and more in line with the overall aesthetic.

COLOR PLAY

Gray accents in an all-gray space would seem institutionally stark. Contrasting dark cabinet fronts with white sides and toekick adds a jolt of visual energy. Pastel pottery in organic shapes adds a hint of color without popping too much against the muted palette.

REPEAT THAT

Why hide a gleaming collection of cookware behind closed doors, especially when open storage under the cooktop puts pots and pans within easy reach. The metal shelves echo those above the range hood.

ON TAP

A gooseneck faucet adds an extra few inches of vertical cleaning space—big pots clear the spout, no problem. This model is angled rather than arched to harmonize with the crisp, unadorned lines of the hood, window and cabinets.


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arts and crafts

A light-soaked kitchen reinterprets Craftsman style

Rich tones are a staple of Craftsman-era kitchens. In this space, the richness comes from liberal use of natural stone and attention-grabbing copper accents. White-painted cabinets break the mold—oak is the traditional choice—and capitalize on the ample sun from two strikingly large arched windows.



OPEN AND SHUT
An open corner shelf flanked by narrow cabinets makes the most of an awkward orphan of space between two windows. Leaded glass doors reflect light but are opaque enough to camouflage clutter. The arched window frame abutting cabinets on both sides extends the graceful curve.

SMOOTH MOVE
An undermount sink is worth the slight extra expense for so many reasons: It looks more modern, it can be customized easily, and, best of all, crumbs and spills can be swept right into the basin. And a jutting sink rim would interrupt the visual flow of the granite.

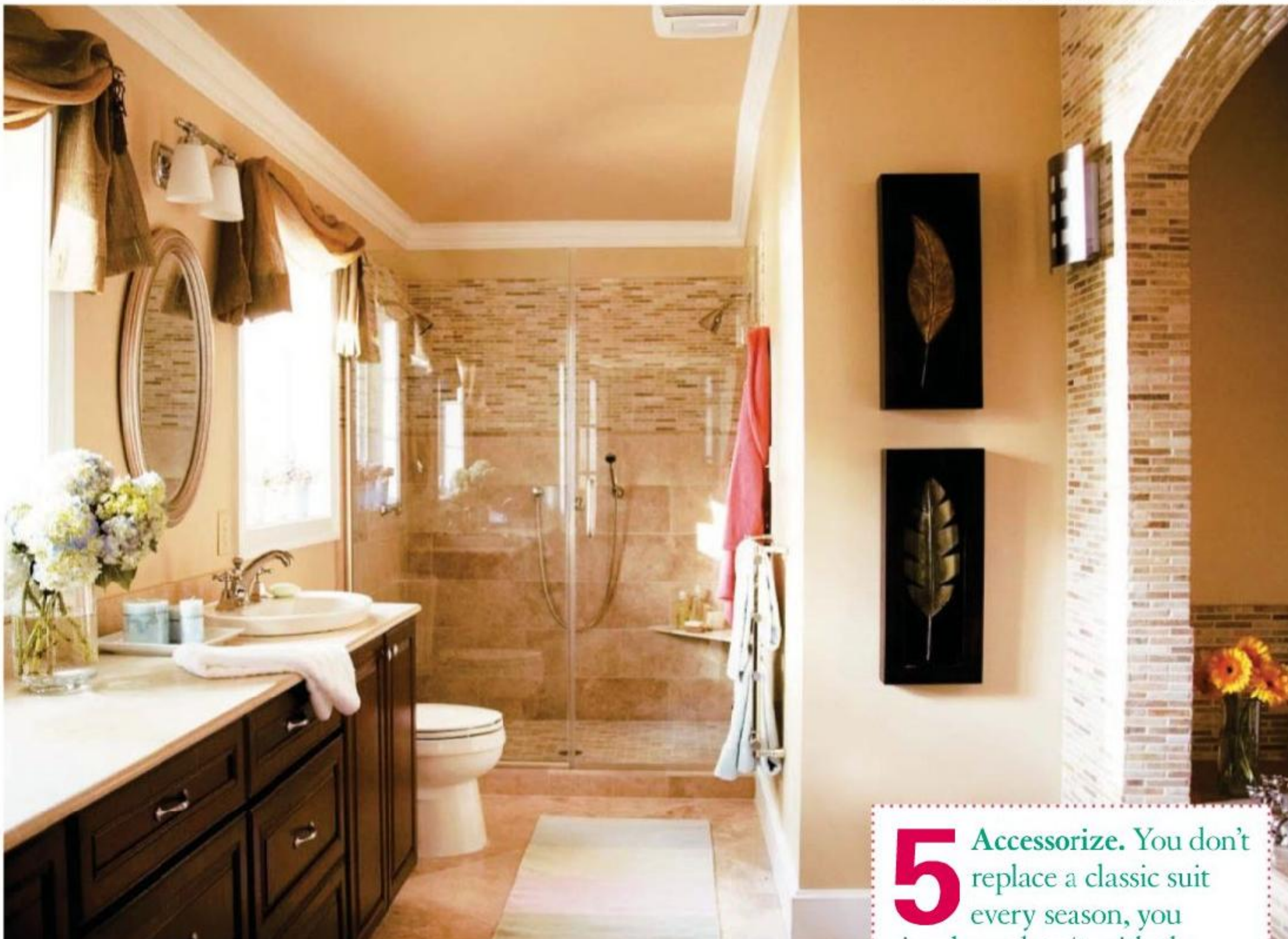
NICE VIEW
These windows are user-friendly as well as lovely thanks to hand cranks—in copper, of course. Casement windows are a good idea for tight spaces, and these also open up the kitchen to the patio outside.

EYE CONTACT
Contrast between the dark countertops and light cabinets is key for maintaining visual interest. Using the same stone for the backsplash pulls the eye upward and provides a necessary seamlessness in a space with lots going on. ◆


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Anything else is a compromise

great budget upgrades

WRITTEN BY SUZANNE MORRISSEY



5 Accessorize. You don't replace a classic suit every season, you simply update it with the latest accessories. A swag of fabric over a window, a new faucet, even a pretty tray of candles will add great looks to a bath space for a song.

BATHS

1 LIGHTEN UP. Baths require some privacy, but that doesn't mean you have to cover every inch of your bathroom windows with heavy curtains or dated blinds. New peel-and-stick window coverings obscure the view with opaque patterns but still let the sunshine in.

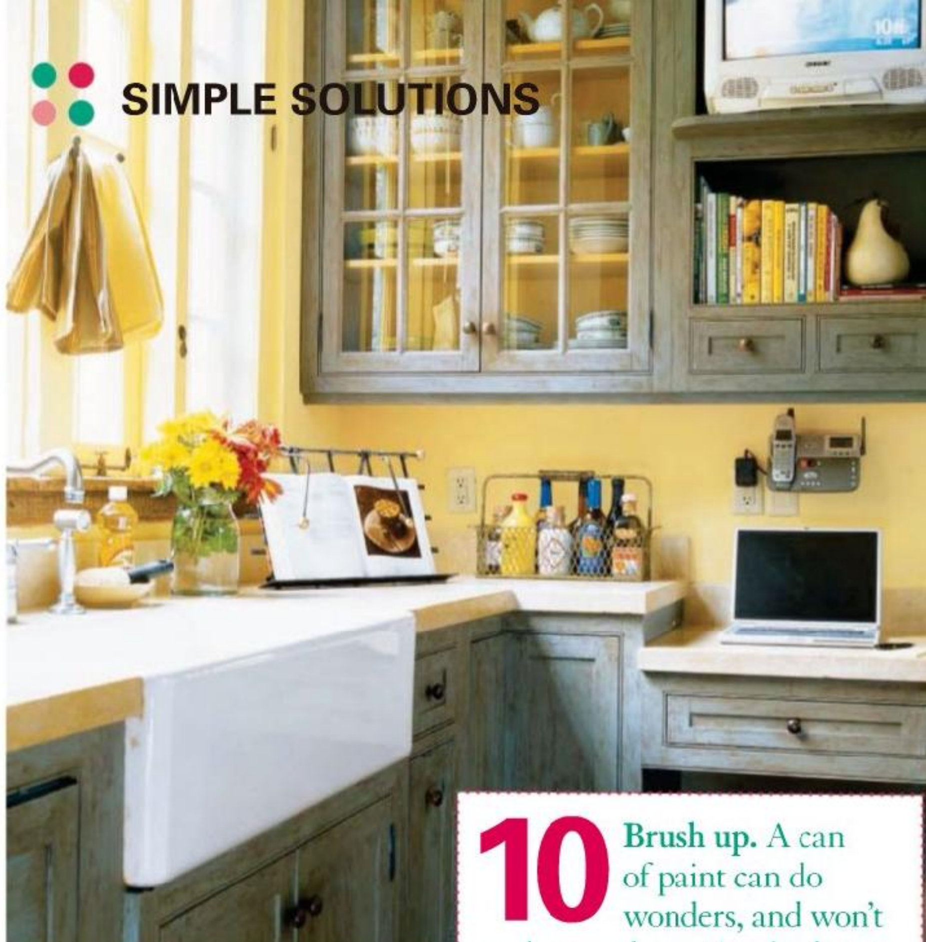
2 JUST RING. Replacing the shower curtain is an easy way to freshen up the bathroom. But make sure to replace mildewed or rusty rings, too. It's an inexpensive purchase that can make a big difference.

3 BOX IT IN. All the lotions and potions we use in the bath are pricey enough; why spend even more on ways to keep them organized? Scout around the house for a basket or bin that you can revamp and put into service on the bathroom counter. Adding texture and organization for nothing? Priceless.

4 GET REALLY CLEAN. We all save pretty pastel-colored soaps from hotels or gift baskets we've received. Unwrap them and fill a large clear glass container to gain a note of spa style.

6 DRY UP. Add a fresh hit of color with some new hand towels and washcloths. It's a quick change without splurging on a whole new set of towels. Style tip: try pairing a bold, tropical color with white towels; crisp white with navy or other dark shades; or chocolate-brown with any pastel.


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10 Brush up. A can of paint can do wonders, and won't push your decorating budget to the max. Projects for the kitchen are especially wallet-friendly. Since much of the wall space is covered by cabinets, you can give a zingy new look to the entire room with just a quart or two of color.

KITCHENS

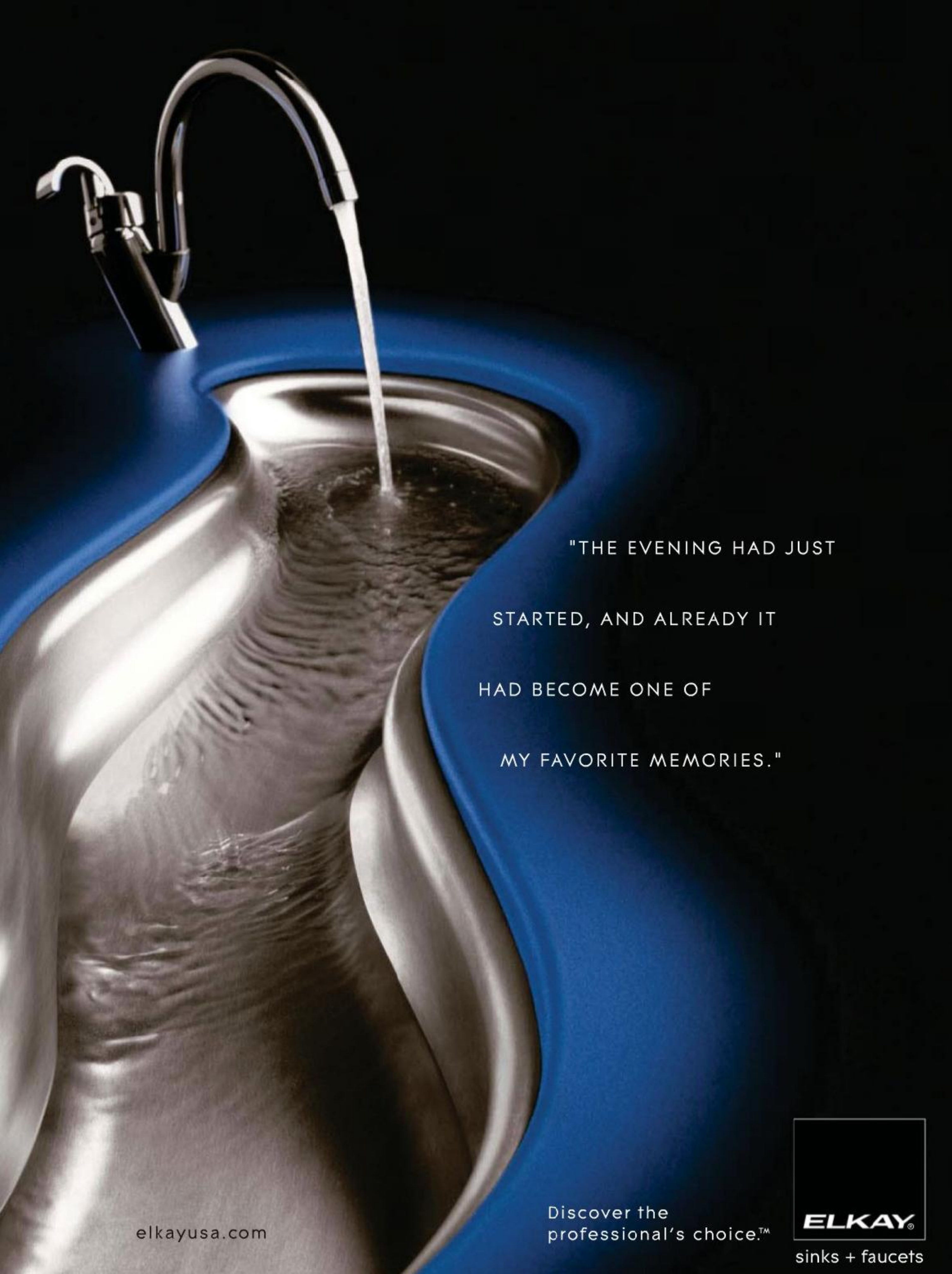
7 PULL IT OFF. Replace cabinet pulls or knobs with new ones in a different style. This can refresh the look of your cabinets for a few dollars; replacing the cabinets can easily cost thousands.

8 GO SEE-THROUGH. Do you have unique mugs, lovely stemware or other kitchen pieces that you can't wait to put on the table? Switch out a solid cabinet door with glass, and showcase your favorite items inside. Designer tip: Pay attention to shapes as well as color when deciding which items to display. And don't be afraid to let a single large item, like a great platter or vintage pitcher, have its own shelf.

9 USE THE KIDS. Kitchens are the family gathering place, so ask the children in your life to paint or draw their favorite foods with bright, bold colors, then frame using inexpensive black document frames with white mats. Hang in a tight grid arrangement, frames touching, for a modern twist. The result is a custom conversation piece—and a lot of smiles.

11 TABLE IT. A new table might not be in your budget right now, but a tablecloth or even a single place mat that you can set in the center and show off might be. Check the clearance shelves at linen stores for discontinued colors and patterns. Shopping tip: Mix and match more expensive wooden or quilted place mats with plain-fabric solids for a pulled-together look for less.

12 BE FLOORED. Not only do rugs make your tootsies feel better on a hard kitchen floor, they add color and style and can cover worn spots—all this for less than the cost of a bag of groceries! Smart tip: Be sure to use rubber pads under rugs in the kitchen to prevent skidding and slipping. ◆


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WRITTEN BY LINDSAY DAMAST

Tip Sheet

A doorless shower has some basic requirements—floor-to-ceiling tiling for complete waterproofing and a floor that slopes to a central drain—but there are many options for personalization:

◆ **Fancy fixtures** By eliminating shower doors, you also eliminate the need for hinges, handles and rail systems for sliding doors. Pocket the savings, or put it towards a multiple-showerhead configuration for a spalike experience, with showerheads on opposite walls for double the enjoyment.

◆ **Have a seat** What's the rush? A built-in bench lets you sit and indulge in the cascading stream. It's also a great spot for shaving your legs or, if you don't want to clutter up your new, clean look with hanging baskets, for stashing extra toiletries.

◆ **Pleasing palette** Though the white subway tiles of this bathroom make a bright, clean impact, feel free to intersperse colored, patterned or textured tiles for a bit of flair. To further the flow of design, match custom-finished fixtures to your cabinetry hardware.

A doorless shower will give you luxury without breaking the bank

Taking the open floor plan beyond the main living area, homeowners are trying out the doorless shower in the master bath. This airy, stylistically flexible look is a dramatic, cost-effective way to turn an ordinary bathroom into a luxury lair. Fewer components can lower installation costs. When planning the footprint for your walk-in shower, the curb should ideally be about six feet away from the wall. Though that might sound like a good chunk of space, don't forget the room required for a swinging door's clearance! And for the homeowner looking to age in place, a curbless, sloped pan design would enable wheelchair access and make entering the shower a seamless process. ◆

raising the bar

Remote kitchens take the wet bar to a higher level of service



A satellite kitchen is designed to do more than serve drinks. A microwave and a small fridge are a given. A wine cooler and a two-burner cooktop take you to the next level.

WRITTEN BY BILL PARTSCH

When people spend lots of time socializing or relaxing in far-flung parts of the home, even the most thoughtfully designed kitchen hub can feel hopelessly out of the way. No one wants to trudge from the basement family room on movie night for a fresh batch of snacks. And wouldn't it be grand to have that morning coffee waiting for you not merely when you wake up, but also right there in the bedroom?

That's why a satellite kitchen is such a great idea. These small-footprint areas usually amount to light-duty versions of full kitchens. They can have all of the standard kitchen amenities—storage, cooking appliances, refrigeration, plus a sink, dishwasher and countertop—but they're meant for less strenuous, more casual use.

A typical wet bar does not qualify as a satellite kitchen. "A bar area is designed for serving drinks," says New York–based interior designer John Buscarello, ASID. "A satellite kitchen has cooking capabilities as well."

Although satellite kitchens could conceivably exist just about anywhere beyond the dining room, designers say they frequently end up in bedrooms and media centers. From a design standpoint, successful satellites complement—rather than overpower—the larger rooms they are situated in.

Appliances should maximize the efficiency of the compact space. "Ideally, I like to get the microwave off the countertop," says Thompson Price, CKBD, of Thompson Price Kitchen, Bath and Home in Des Peres, Missouri. "Counter space is at a premium," he says, so a built-in model—high on the wall or below the counter—makes the best sense.



All the standard kitchen elements are present in a satellite location, including refrigeration and plumbing. Ample countertops provide room to prepare and serve food and drinks for parties.

Similarly, undercounter refrigerators are a must, and satellite kitchens are perfect for single-drawer dishwashers. "You don't need a full-size dishwasher," Price says. Many times, in fact, "All you need is a place to clean glasses. When people are entertaining, they often use paper plates so they don't have to worry about cleaning them."

A bedroom satellite kitchen would focus primarily on people's needs right before and especially right after they sleep—"more breakfast-y or late-night-snacks," Buscarello says. It could easily include a juicer and an espresso or coffee maker.

A stove or cooktop would be excessive. "Ancillary kitchens don't involve heavy grilling and frying," Buscarello says. A two-burner glass cooktop—induction would be ideal—could serve as a glorified hot plate, but anything more ambitious would require ventilation. At that point, you might as well put in a second full-fledged kitchen. "Simple is the goal here," Buscarello says. "These spaces are pretty low key."

Because satellite kitchens are specific to the rooms they're in, they welcome elements that would be extravagant—and probably infrequently used—in ordinary kitchens. In a media center, especially, fancier snacks can be made with an oven, warming drawer and/or a movie-theater-style popcorn maker.

For drinks, an undercounter wine captain is great for those so inclined, and an ice maker can be a most welcome addition to a media room or basement rec room. "They give you access to ice that's constantly fresh," Price says.

If the gang enjoys beer, you could even put in a dedicated tap. This requires a particularly high demand for tall cold ones, however, as beer taps typically require at least a pony keg—the equivalent of about three and a half cases of beer.

Less of a stretch would be a built-in coffee/espresso center, which you might also find in a high-end full kitchen. Coffee →



must-have

A built-in coffee machine conserves counter space and is a welcome luxury—especially in a bedroom.

Miele CVA4070 coffee system, $2,899 plumbed in. 800-843-7231; *miele.com.*

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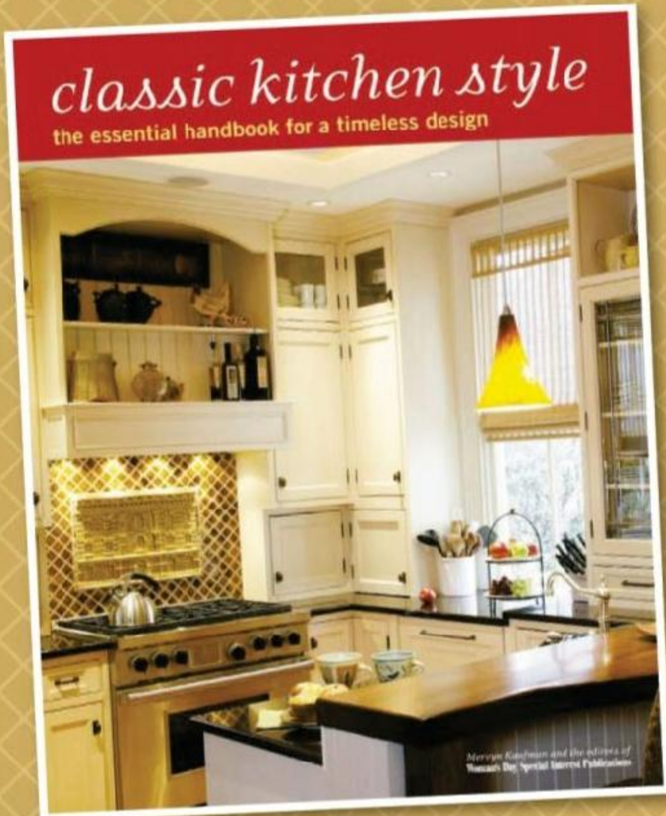
A single-drawer dishwasher is ideal for a remote kitchen. It not only takes up less space, but it's just the right size to handle modest loads.

lovers will no doubt appreciate the built-in grinder, myriad brewing options and the fact that the machine can be plumbed directly into the household water supply. "It's nice not constantly having to fill up a coffee pot," Price says. He describes these units as "not terribly expensive but a little bit of an extravagance. For coffee drinkers, it's nice to be able to get a cup of coffee in the bedroom or bathroom and be ready to face the day."

Sinks should take up as little space as possible, and Price says the variety of shapes and sizes available make this easier than ever. "It used to be you could only choose between a 15-inch bar sink or a full-size single-bowl kitchen sink," he says.

Whatever the sink, Price says, "I highly recommend putting in a garbage disposer." Media rooms can see flurries of socializing followed by long idle periods. People don't empty the trash all the time in these rooms, Price notes, meaning uneaten food can start to rot. Even if the trash does get removed promptly, moisture-laden food waste can add up to a heavy load to haul outside. Having a garbage disposer lightens the trash burden and flushes away potentially smelly foods in a flash.

Another natural amenity for a satellite kitchen sink would be an instant-hot-water faucet, be it for tea, soup or oatmeal. It encapsulates the central idea of a satellite kitchen: something small and fairly unassuming that performs quickly and effectively. ◆

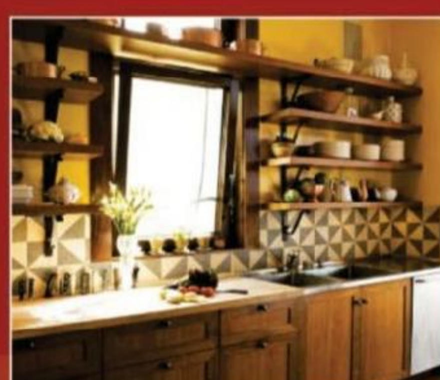


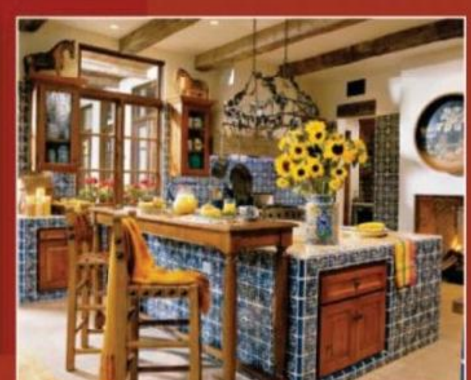
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hanging around

Pot racks take storage to a higher place

WRITTEN BY CARLA JORDAN



HEADS UP

The Low-Ceiling pot rack has a short mount, protecting the noggins of tall cooks or anyone whose kitchen lacks height. $950. 877-362-5863; *enclume.com*.



SIDE LINE

Not every pot rack hangs from the ceiling. This one, in eco-friendly bamboo, mounts on a wall, making room for a cookbook shelf. $100. 800-996-9960; *crateandbarrel.com*.



CHIC AND CHEAP

Our eyes lit up at the smart price of this wrought-iron double-shelf pot rack. Three finishes, red shown. $50. 800-966-6546; *walmart.com*.



SURF'S UP

The hammered steel Collection Z pot rack resembles minimalist waves. $206. 888-390-6696; *gourmetdecorstore.com*. ◆



OPPOSITES ATTRACT

We adore the mix of cool and warm in this modernist stainless steel and bamboo pot rack. $194. 877-723-5522; *bellacor.com*.



natural philosophy

This bathroom creates drama with an interplay of stone and wood tones

WRITTEN BY RACHEL YOUNG



style notes

MIRROR, MIRROR ON THE WALL
A high window centered above the vanity makes mirror placement a challenge. Hanging a mirror above each basin creates a pleasing arrangement and turns a possible liability into a focal point.

RIGHT OF CENTER
Artwork invigorates a bathroom and adds personality. The off-center placement of these pieces relieves the symmetry of the mirrors and window.

LONG LEGS
Tall legs lighten the look of the boxy vanity and create a feeling of space.

TONE ON TONE
Mixing wood stains is one way to create contrast. A custom vanity is a conversation piece in natural cherry with a striking stripe of sycamore.









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Nambé bread tray, $145.800-443-0339; *nambe.com*.

ARTFUL GLASS
Addison hand-blown vase, $95. 800-774-5277; *simonpearce.com*.

FANCY FAUCET
Pinstripe Pure widespread lavatory faucet in polished chrome, $620. 800-456-4537; *kohler.com*.

I'LL BE YOUR MIRROR
Cabot wall mirror, $399. 800-967-6696; *crateandbarrel.com*.



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lime light

A bold wall color energizes a country-style kitchen



style notes

HANG LOOSE
Ceiling-mounted cabinets create a sense of separation between the kitchen and dining area, but glass doors allow light to pass freely from one space to the other.

MADE IN THE SHADE
Roman shades in a light color filter sunlight but don't block it entirely. A bright and punchy fabric tips the scales toward informality.

MIX IT UP
A variety of lighting sources is key in a kitchen with multiple work areas. Task lighting above the sink harmonizes with a pendant above the table; recessed ceiling lights augment the all-over glow from windows and French doors.

WARM WOOD
Keeping the wood flooring the same from one room to the next helps the spaces flow and adds to the farmhouse feel created by the cabinets and sink.









FARMHOUSE FASHION
Rohl Shaws fireclay sink, $1,183. 800-777-9762; *rohlhome.com*.

HIGH ARCHES
American Standard Hampton faucet, $232. 800-442-1902; *americanstandard-us.com*.

IT'S A WASH
Fisher & Paykel double dish drawer in white, $959. 888-936-7872; *fisherpaykel.com*.

SPOT LIGHT
Canyon Rim mini-pendant chandelier, $65. 800-782-1967; *lampsplus.com*. ◆

Surgery Can't Fix Dark Circles!



Finally, researchers have developed the first product to combine a clinically proven compound to reduce those dark under-eye circles and simultaneously reduce fine lines and wrinkles, resulting in noticeably younger looking eyes.

—By Sarah Tucker

I can't tell you how often I'm told that I look tired because of the dark circles under my eyes. I guess some people don't realize how embarrassing this is... I have been plagued with dark circles since my early 20s! But finally I don't have to worry about them anymore since I found Hydrolyze[H].

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Despite what most people think, deep, dark circles under your eyes are not primarily caused by being tired or stressed. Instead, dermatologists and plastic surgeons agree that dark circles are caused by capillaries that leak blood close to the skin's surface. When this blood begins to oxidize, it turns a bluish red color, similar to an ugly bruise. And since the skin under the eyes is very thin, this leads to the appearance of those embarrassing bags and dark circles. The more transparent your skin and the more blood that pools under it, the darker the circles appear. And what's worse, this discoloration over time can become permanent!

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In a double-blind clinical trial more than 72% of women who had serious dark circles and used Haloxyl™† saw an obvious visible reduction in the dark color under their eyes. These findings were confirmed using high-speed laboratory photography that clearly showed a significant reduction in the appearance of the blue and red color that make up dark eye circles.

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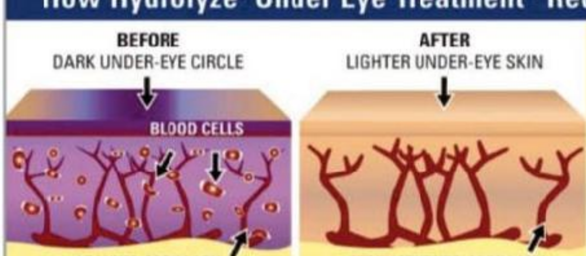
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three kitchens lighten up

WRITTEN BY JEANNIE MATTEUCCI



BEFORE: The old 132-square-foot kitchen was lit by a strip of track lighting that created shadows.

AFTER: More natural light, enhanced by recessed fixtures and undercabinet fluorescents give a clean, bright feeling to the now 228-square-foot space.

1 natural glow

Not happy with the cramped galley kitchen in their townhouse in Menlo Park, California, the homeowners set out to replace the dark, dated room with a bright European-style space inspired by their home country of Switzerland. They hired Genie Nowicki, CKD, a senior designer with Harrell Remodeling, of Mountain View, California, to help them. "The old kitchen isolated the cook," says Nowicki. "We wanted to create a connection between the kitchen and family room and capture more natural light." Removing an interior wall between the kitchen and family room opened up the space, and a rebuilt balcony allowed Nowicki to push the kitchen out four feet. An enlarged window over the sink and new French doors now flood the room with natural light. Light green granite countertops and soft sage green walls give it a bright and cheery look. "This kitchen has a totally new feel—and that's what we really wanted to accomplish," says the wife.

IN THE DETAILS

- **CABINETS** The custom-stained cherry cabinets feature raised-panel doors and crown molding. "They're traditional and bring warmth to the space," says Nowicki. "We wanted the room to feel rich but not dark." Designer Genie Nowicki included full-glide deep drawers for pots and pans, a base cabinet next to the stove for cooking oils and a special-size cabinet in the island to house bottles of the couple's favorite Italian water.
- **FLOOR** An attractive "Rose River Gum" eucalyptus floor was used for the kitchen and the rest of the townhouse. "It's a very unusual floor that's harder than cherry and offers a lot of color variation and warm red tones," says Nowicki. Three coats of a water-based polyurethane protect the floor from kitchen spills.
- **ISLAND** The center island has a prep sink, seating for four and a granite top that matches the surrounding counters. "We paneled the back of the island so it looks good from every angle," says Nowicki. →

SEE SOURCES FOR MORE INFORMATION

2 open a new window

Leif Ellisen and his partner, Michael Dworman, of Newton, Massachusetts, love the historic architecture of their 1912 Arts and Crafts house, but the chopped-up kitchen with the refrigerator in a separate nook had to go. "It was crowded and dark," says Ellisen. Hoping to create a brighter, more user-friendly space, the couple hired Mariette Barsoum, CKD, owner of Divine Kitchens of Westborough, Massachusetts. "The space had lots of dark paneling that took light away," says Barsoum. Removing a butler's pantry opened up the space, and a new bay window floods the space with natural light and provides views of the garden. Off-white painted maple cabinets with simple Shaker-style doors also lighten the room. Barsoum maximized storage with smart details like a lazy Susan in a corner cabinet and oversized drawers for pots and pans. A duel-fuel range with convection oven was another important upgrade. "We were able to create an open and light but incredibly warm and functional space," says Ellisen.



BEFORE: Dark pine cabinets and a worn linoleum floor were just two of the less attractive features of the old 135-square-foot kitchen.

AFTER: Flanking a window with frosted-glass-front cabinets makes the window seem larger and the space look brighter.



IN THE DETAILS

- **BACKSPLASH** Echoing the beadboard used in the home's original kitchen, the couple installed a rich red bead board backsplash with a satin finish. Handmade sage and burgundy tiles set in a diagonal pattern behind the range create a pleasing focal point for the room and offer a contrast for the surrounding lighter cabinets.
- **COUNTERTOPS** The burgundy-and-black granite countertops with flecks of cream have an irregular pattern that adds texture to the space. "We looked at 20 different slabs before we found one we liked," says Ellisen. Barsoum says the granite "gives life to the space" and adds a touch of luxury.
- **FLOORING** Rich Brazilian cherry floors add warmth and reflect the traditional flavor of the house. "We wanted another tone in the kitchen because we had the white cabinets," says Ellisen. The floor's high-gloss finish also helps keep things light.



BEFORE: The ratty linoleum floor, dark cabinets and worn tile counters made the old 138-square-foot kitchen feel gloomy and dated.

AFTER: In addition to a skylight, the now 174-square-foot kitchen features two Craftsman-style glass pendants, recessed fixtures and under-cabinet lighting.

3 bright idea

As a single mother of two boys who also works in education for NASA, Liza Coe of Los Altos, California, needed a kitchen to match her busy lifestyle. Coe grew up in this ranch-style house and wanted to lighten things up and create a better connection with the surrounding rooms. "The whole house—and particularly the kitchen—was too compartmentalized," she says. "It also offered no visibility. I could see into the front yard but not the back. With two young kids, that was a problem." For help, Coe turned to Patsy Zakian-Greenough, CKD, a senior designer with Harrell Remodeling. "We removed walls so the kitchen is now open to the living, dining and family rooms," says Zakian-Greenough. "We also extended the kitchen two feet out of the front of the house." While not part of their original plan, an added skylight brings natural light into the renovated room. "It required special framing, but it adds huge value," says Zakian-Greenough. "It gives Liza lots of natural light and we concealed some color-corrected fluorescents inside for a similar effect in the evening." Coe says she loves the feeling of openness the skylight adds. "It feels like my space now. The kitchen has become the family center—what every kitchen should be." ◆

IN THE DETAILS

- **APPLIANCES** When upgrading her appliances, Coe had two big concerns: versatility and energy efficiency. She now has a pro-style stove with convection oven, a microwave above the range, a stainless steel dishwasher and a side-by-side refrigerator with a paneled front. Her one special request: an easy-access ice and water dispenser.
- **CABINETS** Locally made red birch cabinets feature a clear finish that helped keep the budget under control. "The color of the wood is beautiful," says Coe. "They're not dark but they're also not white." Coe considered adding glass fronts to a few of the cabinets, but decided she wanted as much serviceable storage as possible.
- **COUNTERTOPS** Coe—who studied geology in school—knew she wanted a natural material for her counters. She ended up choosing a green, black and taupe granite with light neutral tones that complement the surrounding finishes in the kitchen. "The pattern of this granite is pretty consistent and sort of subdued, but it has depth," says Zakian-Greenough.

ALL FIRED UP

High design meets superior performance in these hot new grills and outdoor kitchens

WRITTEN BY LINDSAY DAMAST

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Build the outdoor kitchen of your dreams with Fuego Modular's customizable stainless steel system. Its aluminum frame houses up to six 19-inch modules with various grills, burners, warming drawers and storage space. Choose from tile, wood, concrete or a custom material for the dining bar. Starting at $12,000. 888-883-8346; *fuegoliving.com*.





ALFRESCO ALCHEMY

The Magic Grill appears to be just a sleek steel fireplace with ample wood storage space, then voilà! It transforms into a barbecue with the addition of a removable grill pan. $980. 888-350-8765; *ameico.com*.



ROUND IT OUT

The 30-inch flattop grill surface on Evo's Professional Wheeled Cart enables multiple cooks to get in on the action. The mobile unit has dual, independently controlled burners, an electronic ignition, and surrounding drip pan for spillover. $3,150. 503-626-1802; *evoamerica.com*.



START THE IGNITION

With the Hampton Grill's three cooking stations fanned out from their central post, it looks like a spacecraft ready to take flight. The insulated lids and body remain cool to the touch and can be ordered in a range of vibrant colors. $4,000. 818-957-5607; *hamptongrills.com.*



THE WHEEL DEAL

Park Emme's three-burner gas-powered Trolley in your outdoor kitchen's prep zone, then roll the mobile unit to guests for grill-to-plate transfer. $2,800. 866-400-9803; *emmegroupdesign.com.*



ALL THE ANGLES

With its slim frame and clean lines, the T-Grill will add flair to any backyard. The unit utilizes infrared technology to prevent grease flare-ups. $1,000. 877-550-8040; *grandhall.com.*



ON A SILVER PLATTER

Outstanding's OS Royal outdoor kitchen contains a barbecue, plenty of counter and shelf space for prep and storage, and an integrated sink. $7,000, charcoal; $7,500, gas. 212-705-4927; *out-standing.dk*.



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The double-walled terra-cotta construction and dome shape of the Beehive Oven ensures high, even heat for optimal wood-fired baking. $1,700. 866-776-6272; *napastyle.com*.



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Minden's Master Grill comes in four bright hues, can be tricked out with a number of accessory options and packs a punch of power in a petite package. $390. 877-985-2249; *mindengrill.com*.



GO YOUR OWN WAY

DCS expands its Liberty collection with the new corner island kitchen unit, which enables custom configuration for any space and offers specialized modules for the entertaining chef. Basic setup starts at $10,000. 888-936-7872; *dcsappliances.com*. ◆


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vintage advantage

Smart window design enhances this kitchen's character

WRITTEN BY THERESA MCTAMMANY
PHOTOGRAPHS BY CLAUDIO SANTINI
STYLED BY CHAR LANGOS

Some things—a signature strand of pearls or the little black dress, for example—never go out of style. The same holds true for timeless design, says architect Lise Matthews, AIA, ASID, whose modern take on the classic black-and-white service kitchen is shown here. Designed for the owners of a circa-1940 Colonial Revival located in the Westwood section of Los Angeles, the project posed several remodeling challenges for Matthews' Venice, California–based firm, LCM Studios. Among the top priorities: Reorganize the kitchen for cooking and dining, add a sunny breakfast nook and introduce a user-friendly layout that bridges the gap between indoors and out.



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Linoleum countertops with nailed aluminum edging provide a quirky yet practical touch. Fabricated from extra-wide sheets, the tops have no seams.

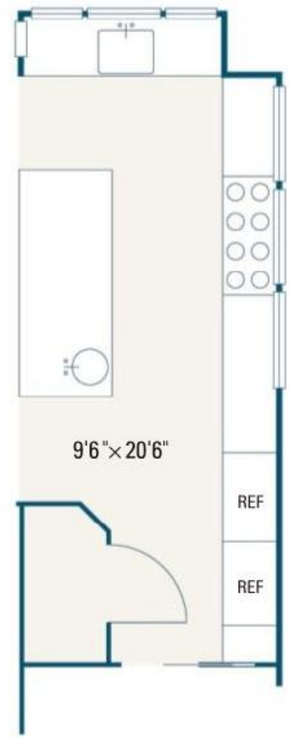


For added sunlight, windows replace wall cabinets. Because privacy is not an issue, the windows are left unadorned—and open, whenever possible—to circulate fresh air.



FLOOR PLAN: STEVEN STANKIEWICZ

BELOW: Taking out some walls and cribbing space from adjacent rooms provided a generous canvas for this L-shaped kitchen with center island.



"Obviously we needed to open the place up," says Matthews, who shifted the kitchen to the rear of the house for great outdoor views. Eliminating interior walls and stealing space from a former laundry room resulted in a 195-square-foot room that's twice the size of the original. Anchored by an island with pull-up seating, the efficient L-shaped open plan flows seamlessly into an expansive family room and adjacent sun-splashed 12×18-foot breakfast nook.

Windows bring the outdoors inside. Upper cabinets were eliminated in favor of cottage-style windows with tilt-out sashes. Instead of a bulky range hood, less intrusive industrial exhaust fans dot the wall above the range. "We passed inspection because the cooking is primarily done on the outside grill," Matthews says. Another focal point is a large, wall-mounted "plaster" sink—a glazed china unit with an integral backsplash, often found in commercial art studios and a forerunner to the apron-front farm sinks popular today.

SEE BUYING GUIDE FOR DETAILS

design points







Here are a few of the ideas that establish the decidedly vintage look of this kitchen:

CITY LIGHTS Mounted on a brick wall, the ceiling lights (top left) would look like warning signals. In their current context, however, the fixtures' simple geometry creates an elegant counterpoint to the "World of the Future" vibe of the clear, conical pendants (top right).

PORTHOLE VENTS A pair of in-wall fans (above) hark back to the ventilation installed in urban and suburban homes in the middle of the 20th century.

CLASSIC SINK This large china sink (right) imparts the requisite classic look, but it's also fantastic for pretty much any size of dish or pan in the kitchen.





ABOVE: Both the look and layout of the kitchen help it flow neatly into the breakfast room. For continuity, flagstone pavers used on the patio also line the floor of the breakfast room.



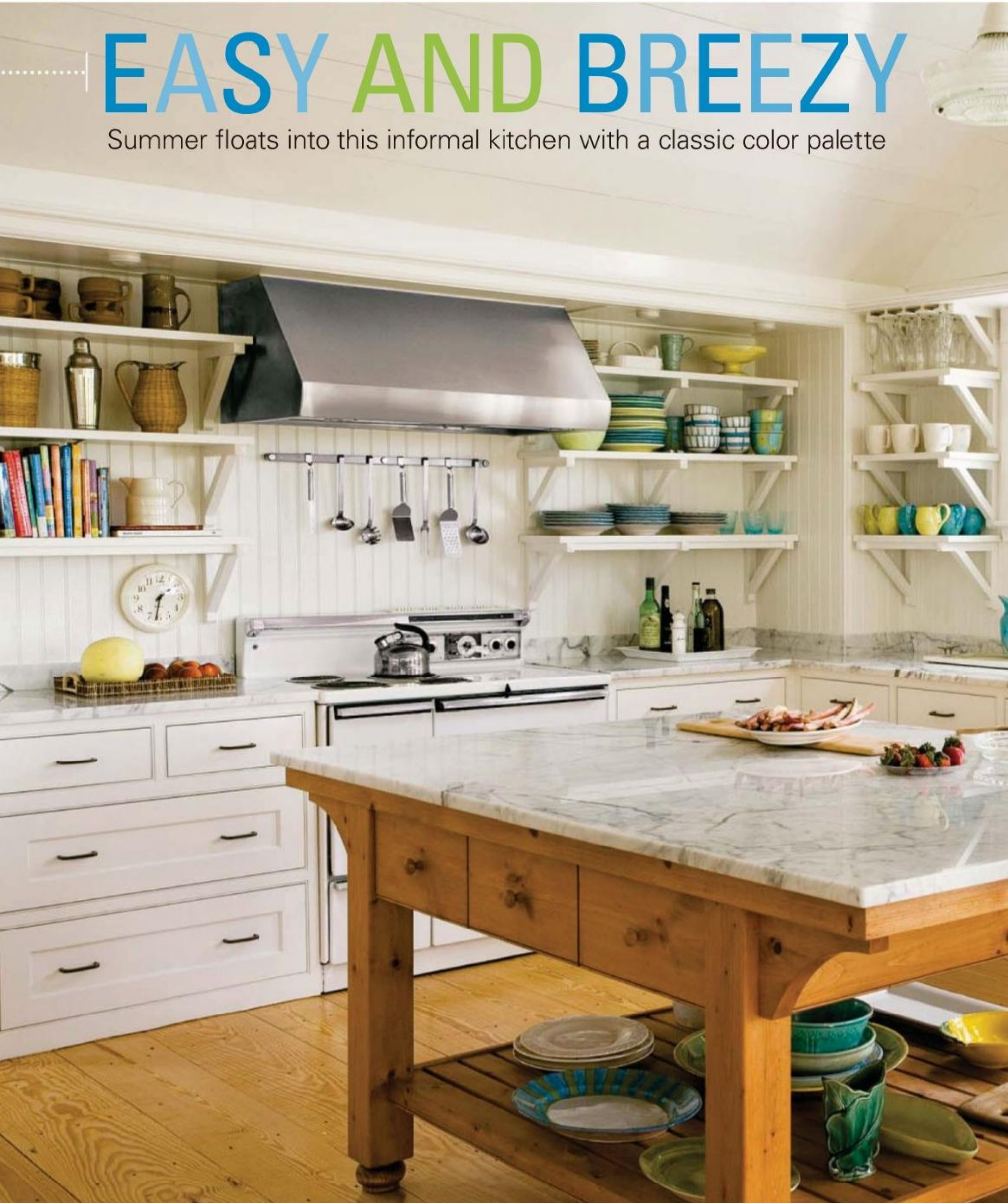
Traditional fixtures and finishes also get a modern twist. White painted cabinets with recessed-panel doors, classic subway-tiled counters, and stainless steel appliances play well with hard-wearing, espresso-stained plank floors. The countertops are a surprise, however, clad in inexpensive marbleized sheet linoleum rather than traditional granite or stone. After a decade of hard use, they still look great, says current owner Amanda Beesley-Weinstock, who relocated from New York in 2004 with her husband, Nicholas, and their three children: Nicholas, 8; Savannah, 6; and Lincoln, 3. Her only caveat: Avoid placing hot objects directly on the surface. "We've only had one accident," she says, "and it was because we forgot to tell our babysitter about how to treat the counter."

Amanda's favorite spot? The alcove with the sink. Even though she rarely washes dishes by hand, she still enjoys the task. "I can stand here and look out over the lemon and orange trees and watch the kids play," she says. "I couldn't do that in New York." ◆

SEE BUYING GUIDE FOR DETAILS

EASY AND BREEZY

Summer floats into this informal kitchen with a classic color palette





WRITTEN BY NANCY A. RUHLING
PHOTOGRAPHS BY ERIC ROTH
STYLED BY DONNA PAUL

k

Keep it simple. That's what a New York City family decided to do when renovating the kitchen in their summer cottage in Essex, Massachusetts.

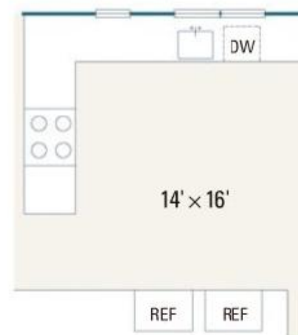
The old (circa-1860) house made do with a modest 144-square-foot kitchen that turned out to be no match for a big family—mom, dad and four teenage boys—not to mention the scores of city kids the family invited to the country. The remodeling remedy fit the home's Greek Revival architecture, but more importantly, it was simple.

The couple enlisted architect Stephen R. Holt, AIA, of Manchester, Massachusetts, who effectively quadrupled the kitchen area by creating three identically-sized spaces—all open to one another—that became the kitchen, dining room and family room. Structurally, these rooms resemble a series of connected fishermen's shacks attached to the back of the house.

White cabinets and a marble-topped farmhouse table define simplicity and elegance in a kitchen that sees a huge amount of traffic.

SEE BUYING GUIDE FOR DETAILS





ABOVE: The large table, abundant counter space and deft placement of range and sink make it easy for the space to accommodate summer crowds.

LEFT: Only one of these two built-in units includes a freezer; the other is all refrigerator. The family emphasizes cooking with fresh ingredients every day, so the demand for a freezer is limited.

This expansive new living area features a host of vintage touches. The walls are clad in beadboard, and the ceilings and floors are random-width pine planks. White paint imparts the fresh feel of classic American whitewash. "We wanted to make it new but preserve the old," Holt says.

The 1960s-era electric range and sink survived from the old kitchen to make the new one look as though it had evolved over generations. Carrara marble countertops reflect 19th-Century decor. "We even hand-painted the cabinets to make them look like they had been there a while," Holt says. "The look is fresh and cheery."

The pair of stainless steel built-in refrigeration units are another reflection of the family's summer lifestyle. One is all refrigerator; the other is a refrigerator/freezer. "They hold drinks and lots of produce," the wife says.

"We make everything fresh every day, so we don't need a big freezer."

With a horde of visitors coming and going—there can be 15 to 20 people at a time eating at the long farmhouse table—the kitchen was designed to make cooking, serving and clean-up easy. Open shelves, supported by triangular custom brackets, hold china, glassware and cookbooks, and the cooking utensils are hung in a decorative fashion over the stove.

"During our big family dinners, when even Grandma helps with the cooking, everybody gathers around the central island," the wife says. "This plan also allows all the visiting children to make their own breakfast."

So whether she's making macaroni and cheese for guests or grilling hamburgers for her own brood, the wife finds working in her summer kitchen to be pure pleasure. "I like it so much that I have duplicated many of its features in my city kitchen," she says. ◆

design points







OPEN FOR PLEASURE

All that white makes this kitchen feel roomy. A lack of upper cabinets helps open the space, too, and it allows light to play across dishes, glassware and cooking tools.

◆ A hanging rail over the range (above) keeps utensils handy.

◆ Open shelves (above right) emphasize simplicity and make it easy for everyone to find things.

◆ Generous, uncovered windows (right) allow natural light to wash through the open space. The sunlight bounces off the sink and marble countertops to further brighten the room.

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Gutting the kitchen and taking out the partition that separated it from the dining room allowed designer Fu-Tung Cheng to turn what had been a U-shaped kitchen into a spacious galley.

a glass act

Walls of windows bring the outdoors into this kitchen

WRITTEN BY CHERYL WEBER
PHOTOGRAPHS BY KEN GUTMAKER
STYLED BY LINDA POPE

The low-slung, contemporary homes built in California in the middle of the last century set the precedent for indoor-outdoor living in the U.S. One example is this 1960 house in Orinda, whose owners have lived there 43 years. In 1971 they expanded it and redid the kitchen. But three decades later, as the garden matured along with their tastes, they wished for even more transparency between the kitchen and their tranquil backyard. Three of the architects they consulted suggested pushing out an exterior wall—a cost-prohibitive solution, given earthquake-prone California's rigorous building and engineering codes. But Berkeley-based designer Fu-Tung Cheng had other ideas. With a few deft deletions and additions, he gave them a sparkling kitchen that seems to float against the greenery, while leaving its basic footprint intact.

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LEFT: The sole wall cabinet sports sliding glass doors that reduce its visual weight and allow it to essentially disappear into the surrounding wall, which is all windows.

OPPOSITE: Instead of installing a double-oven range just for the sake of having more cooktop, this kitchen features a separate grill. The non-oven space below the grill permits extra storage.

Cheng, who heads up Cheng Design, is known for organic, sculpted lines and a down-to-earth style—exactly the look the wife was after. "I wanted more glass this time," she says. "I wanted it to be a little edgy and very contemporary and kind of Zen." Cheng gutted the kitchen and tore out a partition between it and the dining area, making way for a long, sleek galley in place of the old U-shaped workspace. He also extended a wall about two feet on the opposite end of the room. "The old kitchen didn't have this linear generosity," Cheng explains. "Our idea was to stretch things out."

Another house-opening move was to expand on the rhythm of existing clerestory windows. By filling the entire vertical space between clerestory and countertop with new windows and adding French doors, Cheng created a sweeping wall of glass overlooking

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VIKING

BRIGHT IDEAS

Abundant natural light makes this kitchen incredibly inviting. Designer Fu-Tung Cheng maximized the overall brightness with lots of glass, metal and clean lines.

◆ Steel rods set into the countertop near a sink comprise a built-in drainboard (below). This largely removes any need for a dish rack, which would clutter up the countertop.

◆ Concrete and stone countertops (right) have a sheen that helps reflect all that California sunshine.

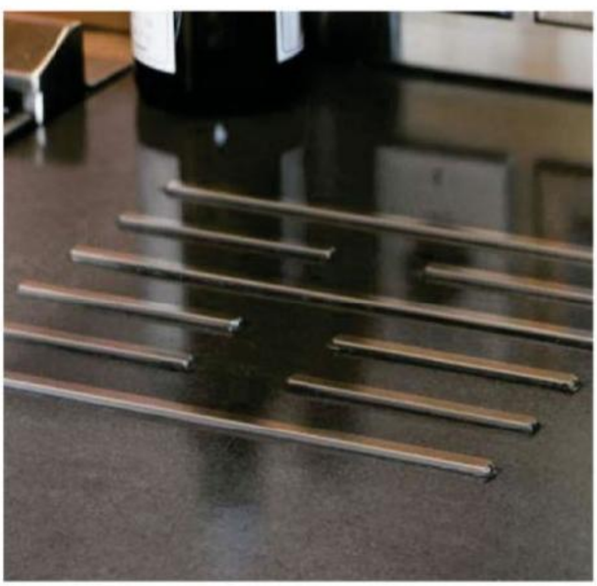
◆ The door hardware and wire shelves of the pull-out pantry (below right) also gleam in the light, but the decision to make these items metal was made primarily for stylistic and ease-of-maintenance reasons.

◆ The back of the glass-front wall cabinet is also translucent (opposite above left), giving the box a pleasing glow. The glass-tile sides and front frame accentuate the effect.

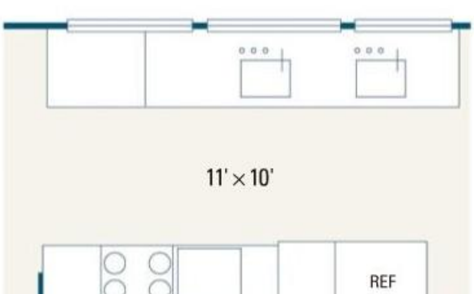
◆ A high-arc polished chrome faucet (opposite below left) adds elegance and a bonus glint of brightness.

◆ A stool is tucked away in a handy nook (opposite right) next to the sink, under a single drawer.









LEFT: The generous gap between the sides of the galley—and the separated single-bowl sinks along the outside wall—allow more than one person to operate in the kitchen comfortably.

the garden. To preserve that view from the kitchen, he omitted upper wall storage except for a single linear cabinet clad in reflective glass tiles that hovers above the counter.

On the galley's opposite side, an interior wall was notched out to allow natural light to travel into the living room. Sleek, almost seamless materials bounce light around and keep the focus on the outdoors. The stain-

SEE BUYING GUIDE FOR DETAILS







less steel backsplash segues into a shelf and a box holding the microwave, and Cheng used his trademark concrete to wrap two end walls and part of the countertops. For the wife, who describes herself as "neurotically neat," purging unused possessions to gain garden views was well worth it. "The openness is fabulous," she says. "It makes this part of the house seem bigger." ◆

"I wanted it to be a little edgy, very contemporary and kind of Zen."





A six-burner cooktop anchors the "hot zone" of this kitchen. The wall-mounted faucet above cuts down on trips to the sink. Pots and pans are stored below.

opening up

A pro chef revamps a floor plan for maximum efficiency

WRITTEN BY THERESA MCTAMMANY
PHOTOGRAPHS BY ERIC ROTH
STYLED BY DONNA PAUL

Twenty years ago, Deborah Krasner figured that women wanted more from kitchens. She didn't mean a visit from Mr. Clean.

Krasner, a food writer turned designer, pioneered the first generation of user-friendly "zone-based" kitchens—an idea that turned the design world upside down. "That was back when everything you read about kitchen design focussed on a work triangle," says the chef, author and designer, whose client roster includes culinary cohort Marcella Hazen. "I always envisioned the kitchen as the social center of family life," she says, "but I knew from experience that a traditional work triangle only works with a person cooking alone."

Krasner's "Aha!" moment occurred after visiting restaurant kitchens, where she repeatedly witnessed multiple cooks performing multiple tasks with ease and efficiency. "When I saw how they were organized, it all made sense," she says, explaining how supplies, appliances, storage devices and utensils were grouped together to create four individual work zones—hot, cold, wet and dry.

SEE BUYING GUIDE FOR DETAILS



> "I knew from experience that a traditional work triangle only works with one person cooking alone."

She co-opted this same functional philosophy to the kitchen she shares with her husband, Michael. Tucked inside a converted hay barn in Putney, Vermont, the open-plan 13×18-foot space merges cooking and dining areas. A six-burner cooktop anchors the hot zone; the wall-mounted spigot above it extends to fill pasta pots. Two deep drawers below stow pots and pans, while spices and cooking utensils are housed conveniently on either side.

Prompted by the barn's architecturally spare interior, she paired pale woods with interesting 19th-century Scandinavian antiques and pieces of 1930s Danish modern she had collected through the years. Texture came from counters of rough-hewn Vermont soapstone, a white-marble-topped island, creamy subway tile, and

The light natural wood finish of the island, along with the white marble top, help to ease the visual weight of such a hefty piece of furniture.

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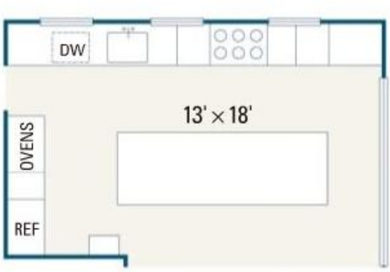
Scandinavian-style stools help set the decorative tone in this area of the kitchen. The cabinets, with their pale finish, clean geometry and sleek hardware, cement the contemporary European motif.



ABOVE: Deborah Krasner adapted the multicook configurations she witnessed in restaurant kitchens toward the design of her home version.

pale ash base cabinets. The floors are eco-friendly cork, which possess both sound and Dr. Scholl-like shock absorbing qualities. Among her favorite features is an extra-deep apron sink which is crafted of copper, chosen for its good looks and antibacterial properties. She prefers its practicality over double sinks whose fabrication predates the dishwasher.

However, Krasner admits, good design should adapt to ever-changing needs. After years of harsh Vermont weather finally rotted out a wall of windows in the kitchen, the couple decided to scratch plans to add a solar greenhouse onto the room, opting instead for a pair of double doors that open up to a sunny sitting area. "Sometimes you find another way to use the space," Deborah says. "You have to be flexible."



ABOVE: Instead of relying on the standard work triangle, Krasner divided her Vermont kitchen into four work zones: hot, cold, wet and dry.

FLOOR PLAN: STEVEN STANKIEWICZ



SEE BUYING GUIDE FOR DETAILS



The dining area exudes a rustic, antique charm. Because it's straightforward and unfussy, this look dovetails well with the more modern decor elsewhere in the kitchen.





MODERN CLASSICS

◆ A tightly organized drawer (above) keeps dozens of spices and seasonings at the ready in the cooking zone.

◆ This tapered rack (above right) allows copper cookware to be displayed artfully. It also makes each piece easy to locate and easy to access, not to mention keeping pots paired with their lids.

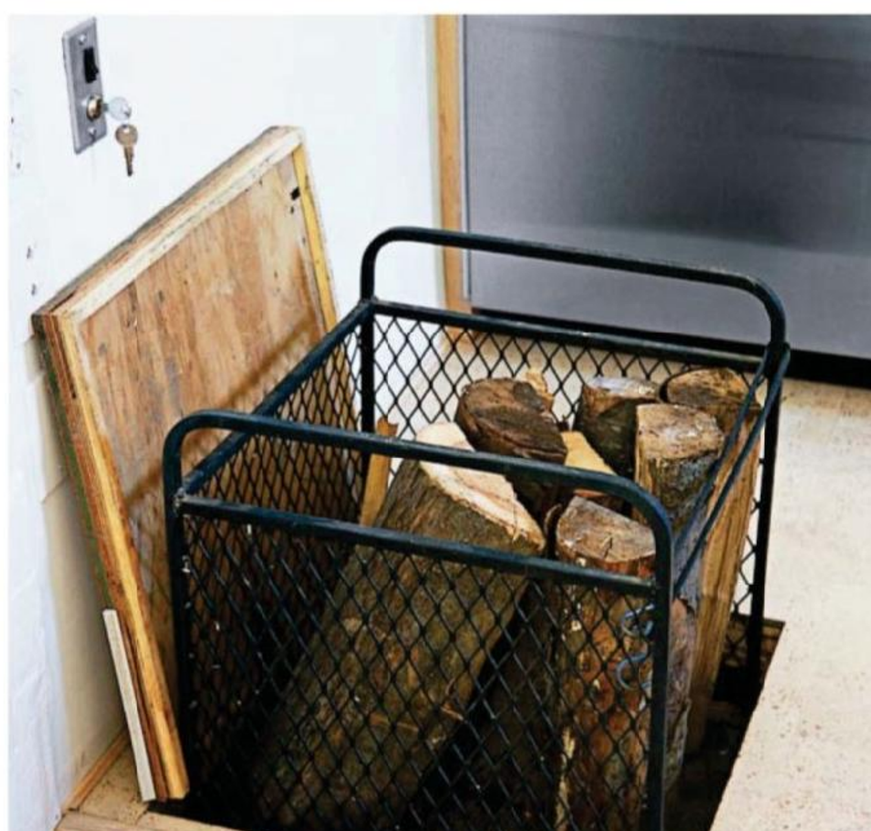
◆ A mesh box on an elevator (right) brings fuel for the wood-burning stove.

◆ The copper farmhouse sink (opposite, above left) is aesthetically pleasing and antibacterial, to boot. Its copious dimensions—made possible by the single-bowl configuration—permit easy maneuvering of large pots and pans.

◆ The marble ledge in front of the wood-burning stove (opposite above right) provides a landing spot for hot cooking vessels. It also matches the island top.

◆ Raising the toekick creates opportunities to maximize storage. It allows a drawer full of serving dishes (opposite below left) to be deeper than typical toekick storage.

◆ Storing dishes in drawers (opposite below right) makes it a breeze to peruse what's available for serving. ◆



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Cabinets with glass fronts and backs provide storage without impeding the flow of light. They're fantastic for displaying items, especially crystal.



BREAKING OUT

A remodel dissolves boundaries between the kitchen and backyard

WRITTEN BY NANCY A. RUHLING
PHOTOGRAPHS BY DAVID DUNCAN LIVINGSTON

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“We improved the *circulation* to create an *efficient space* that’s delightful to be in because it imparts a sense of *tranquility*.”

When Barbara Wolfe is cooking, she likes to see what’s going on inside and outside. That’s why her kitchen is designed to give her crystal-clear views in sunlight and starlight.

The interior designer, who lives in a 1950s ranch in Palo Alto, California, collaborated with local architect Heather Trossman, of Heather Trossman Architecture & Planning, on the illuminating project that was part of a renovation that added more than a thousand square feet to the house.

“The house sits on a lot that is trapezoidal, and we used corresponding angles that are a gentle five degrees off the rectilinear to open the kitchen’s space and make it appear larger,” says Trossman, adding that the room’s original 250-square-foot footprint was retained. “And we improved the circulation to create an efficient space that’s delightful to be in because it imparts a sense of tranquility.”

To put the backyard in focus, the house’s back wall was replaced by a spacious gallery of glass fitted with doors, double-hung windows and large skylights shaped like triangles and rhombi. The new kitchen layout, a pair of L-shaped, bar-height peninsulas bracketing a central island, looks out over a new sunroom-style breakfast nook and an enlarged family media room.



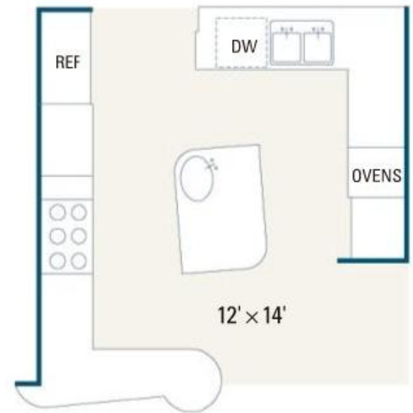
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The interplay of the outer wall of glass and hanging elements considerably relieves what could have been an oppressive solid wall of kitchen.







FLOOR PLAN: STEVEN STANKIEWICZ

ABOVE: The slightly off-kilter room—corners are five degrees off from right angles—opens up the space and makes the kitchen feel larger.

LEFT: In addition to an abundance of light, the space has a contemporary organic feel, with large swaths of stainless steel—including the counters—along with sage and natural-finish wood cabinets.

"The whole space is totally open," says Wolfe. "We open all the doors and windows, and we feel like we're on a porch. When we have lots of guests, we can put narrow tables in the gallery. People can spread out, and when I'm working in the kitchen, everything, even the TV, is within sight and sound of me and of each other."

To reflect the indoor/outdoor theme and the day and night light, the cabinets over the peninsulas were suspended from the ceiling and their doors fitted with transparent glass. The poured concrete countertops evoke a patio, and select banks of cabinetry painted a summery shade of sage allude to the expanse of green grass outside.

The sparkling natural light is enhanced by puck lights installed in the cabinets over the peninsulas and by an illuminated stainless steel pot rack over the central island. Dimmers make the room romantic, especially in the low glow of moonlight.

SEE BUYING GUIDE FOR DETAILS









THOUGHTFUL TOUCHES

This kitchen is about much more than good looks—there are numerous practical design ideas throughout the room that make it a pleasure to work in.

◆ Installing the pot rack (above left) over the island prevents accidental collisions between pan and forehead.

◆ Rounding the corner of the counter (above) where the veggie sink is located makes it easy to use the basin from two sides of the island.

◆ Cabinets suspended from the ceiling (left) with custom-fabricated hangers have glass doors front and back that channel outside light into the kitchen.

◆ A short rail on the backsplash (below left) is handy storage for a clutch of frequently used tools and utensils. Note how it stops short of blocking access to electrical outlets.

◆ A pull-down cookbook holder (below) keeps the counter area free and pages clean.





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"Landscape lighting in the garden lets us appreciate the outdoors after dark," Wolfe says. "Without it, the windows would frame black holes instead of a well-edited view."

Although Wolfe is a self-described short-order cook (she dished up do-it-yourself tostadas to a dozen guests at a recent dinner party), she loves to linger in her new kitchen. "You can smell the garden, and I like to bring in cuttings," she says. "The skylights create light patterns on the floor, and we are conscious of the phases of the moon overhead, so there's always something happening here—even when I'm not cooking." ◆

Glass-front cabinets maintain the visual rhythm of the window-rich outer wall. With their solid frames, they also echo the glass oven doors.

KITCHENS ALFRESCO

Three distinct designs for gourmet outdoor entertaining

WRITTEN BY JOHN LOECKE



free & clear

BELOW: Suggesting enclosure yet open to the sky, the pavilion's slatted roof lets light and shadow mix.



Ask Anaheim, California, resident Jackie McCune how she came to create a kitchen in her backyard and she's likely to say that her husband, Don, and his cooking were the inspiration. "He's the cook in the family and he's not always the neatest," she says, with a laugh. "Outside, I can take a hose and wash everything down when he's finished."

Unlike many outdoor kitchens, though, the focal point of the McCunes' isn't a gas grill. In this kitchen, the focus is on a massive flagstone encased wood burning pizza oven. "It's nice because when the weather is chilly, it can also double as a fireplace," says Jackie. A sink and two undercounter refrigerators (one for ingredients and the other for drinks) round out the equipment mix.

The organizing element of the kitchen is a large 22-square-foot island which houses lots of drawers for cooking tools, provides plenty of prep surface and pull-up space for seating. "We entertain outside at least once a week," says Jackie. "Last Christmas I had 30 people over, and we all ate outside."







PHOTOGRAPHS: MARK LOHMAN STYLING: CHAR LANGOS

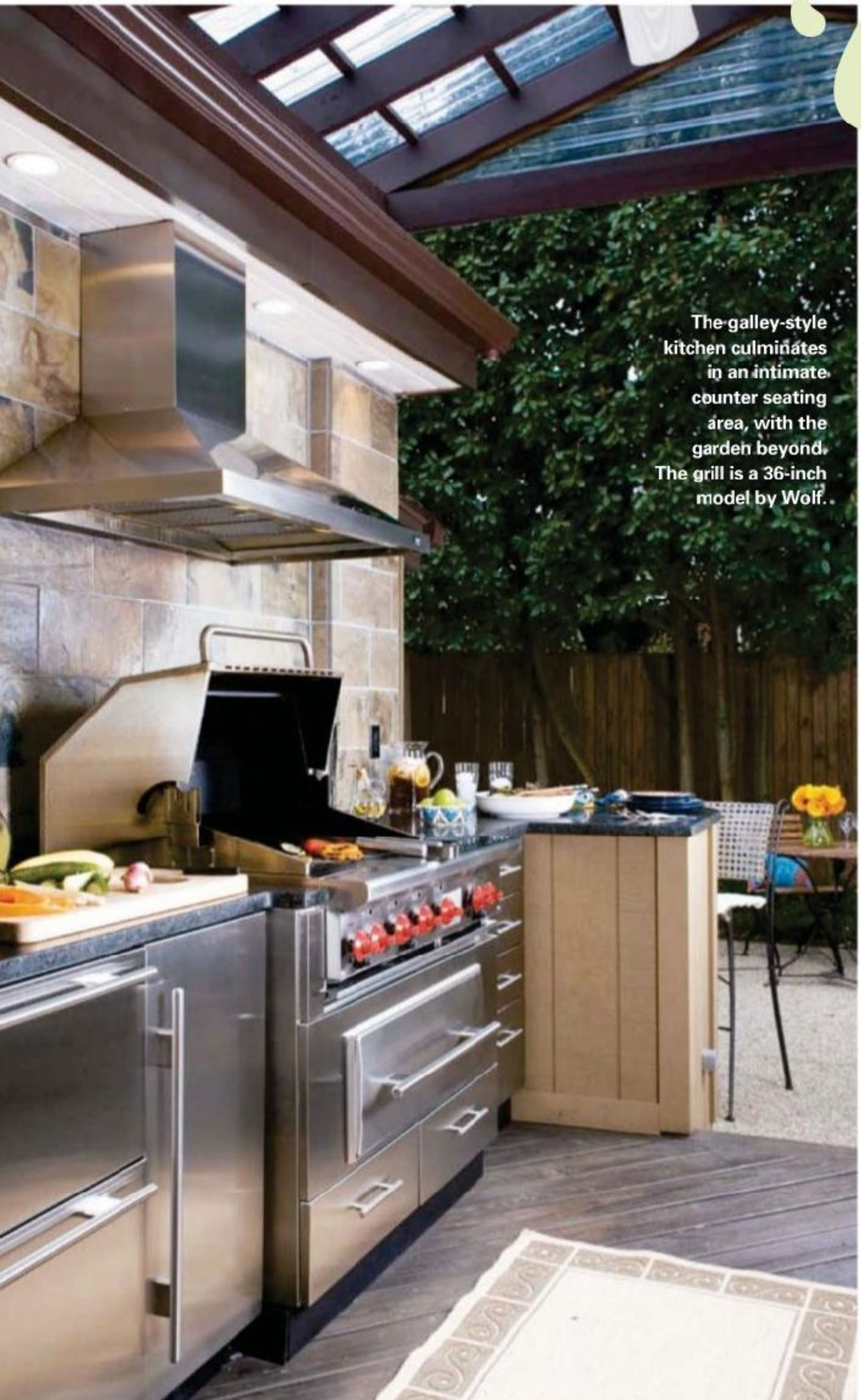
TOP: Increasingly popular, the wood-fired pizza oven unit can be housed in structures either modern or rustic in design.

ABOVE: All surfaces and materials in an outdoor kitchen must be able to stand up to the elements. Mimicking stone, this counter is actually concrete that's been washed in acid.

LEFT: Generous amounts of counter flank the grill, and a low backsplash shields its hot surfaces from diners.

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outdoors & inline



The galley-style kitchen culminates in an intimate counter seating area, with the garden beyond. The grill is a 36-inch model by Wolf.

When Dee David, a Falls Church, Virginia–based kitchen designer, decided to create an outdoor kitchen for her family, she followed the advice she gives clients who ask her to do the same. She selected a location that was in close proximity to her indoor kitchen. As David explains, it's all a matter of convenience. "The electric, gas and water connections were readily available in that spot, and I also knew that I didn't want to carry large trays of ingredients or utensils clear across the backyard," she says.

To visually connect the kitchen to the house, David used materials and forms found elsewhere on the building. For example, the outdoor bar is clad in the same T-111 siding as the house, while the framed-glass canopy that tops the kitchen echoes the roofline.

Of course, an outdoor kitchen in a locale where temperatures can fall below freezing does pose a few challenges. "You must use cabinets made of stainless steel or a material that's impervious to water," she says. "And if you have a sink or ice maker, you have to be able to turn the water off and drain the pipes come late fall."



RIGHT: The contents of the drawers are visible when opened—no straining to raid this refrigerator.



Canister lights installed in the soffit supplement the sunlight which shines through the peaked glass roof topping the kitchen. "It's the same concept as using task lighting in an indoor kitchen," says the designer.

SEE BUYING GUIDE FOR DETAILS

covered & cool





PHOTOGRAPHS: PETE BLEYER

ABOVE: A retractable awning can be extended to shelter the row of outdoor seats from the sun.

RIGHT: The U-shape plan, with the grill centrally located, is a step-saving layout that makes meal prep an orderly experience.



LEFT: The undercounter fridge cools drinks and ingredients, while the neighboring ice machine keeps the party going.

BELOW LEFT: A drawer-style dishwasher brings the convenience of the indoors outside, eliminating runs for clean glasses and plates.



RIGHT: Accordian-fold windows open as necessary in an easy connection to the covered porch.







Architect Peter Schechter, whose practice is based in Santa Monica, California, has a reputation as beign the go-to guy for creating fully functional outdoor spaces that connect—often via folding windows and doors—to the interior of the house. "An outdoor kitchen should never feel like an after-thought," he says.

This is a look that he has devised many times for clients, like the couple who reside in this shingle-clad Cape-style home. "Being able to effortlessly entertain outdoors was a top priority for this couple," says Schechter. "They have a large extended family, and they like to have everyone over for afternoon barbecues."

Thus, Schechter devised a U-shaped space that connects through a series of folding windows to a bar in the adjacent family room on one side and, on the other, through an open bar area to the backyard. To accommodate the windows that connect inward and the opening that looks out, the grill was placed along a wall at the bottom of the U.

To create unobstructed views from inside the work area, Schechter made certain that aside from the grill, everything, including the refrigerator, fits below the counter. For maximum flexibility, he selected two drawer-style dishwashers instead of one full-size model.

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making your outdoor kitchen



PHOTOGRAPH: LEFT, MARK LOHMAN

LAYOUT

When planning your outdoor kitchen, think location. “Ideally you want to be as close as possible to your indoor kitchen so that you can tap into existing electric, water and gas supplies,” says architect Peter Schechter. From there, he advises, think about what’s most logical as well as the number of appliances and amount of storage you require. If your goal is to cook out a couple of times a month, a portable, free-standing cart may suit your needs just fine. However, if your outdoor kitchen is likely to replace the one indoors—especially during the summer months—you might consider something more permanent that includes cabinets and drawers for storage, a small refrigerator, and a sink.

EQUIPMENT

When selecting appliances for an outdoor kitchen, stainless steel, a sturdy material that can take a beating from hot and cold, is always a safe choice, says kitchen designer Dee David. But don’t rely solely on an appliance’s stainless body: Also read the fine print to find appliances specifically rated for outdoor use. “More and more grill manufacturers are getting into the business so things like refrigerators are not as difficult to find as they once were,” she says. And as outdoor kitchens become more opulent, it’s not uncommon to find grills topped with exhaust hoods, especially if the cooking area has a roof overhead to block the sun and keep out rain. “The smoke has to go somewhere,” says David, “and I would rather it not blow back in my face.”







PHOTOGRAPHS: ABOVE LEFT AND LEFT, PETE BLEYER; RIGHT, TIMOTHY BELL

PHOTOGRAPHS: RIGHT, MARK LOHMAN; BELOW LEFT AND RIGHT: PETE BLEYER



MATERIALS

Knowing your climate and its limitations are the key to selecting the right materials, says Schechter. "If you live in an area of the country where temperatures dip below freezing, you'll need materials that can handle this," he says. "This is especially important if you're dealing with ceramic tiles and other materials that can easily crack in weather." And while the ruggedness of individual materials is important, so, too, is the appropriateness to the setting. In other words, adds Schechter, you wouldn't want to use a terra-cotta stone in Maine, you'd probably want to use slate.









ACCESSORIES

When evaluating possible accessories, be realistic about what you will use the kitchen for, says David. "More than likely you will never bake a cake outdoors so a traditional oven really isn't necessary," she says. "But if you like to make pizza or bread, a wood-burning pizza oven may be a wise choice." Sinks are one item David considers essential for every outdoor kitchen, not only for easy clean up, but also for performing simple prep chores like washing vegetables in an efficient manner. "If you can avoid taking the mess inside, that's always a good thing," says David. As with appliances, faucets should be rated for outdoor use. "It's not so much the inner workings," says David. "It's the finish. You want to make sure it can stand up to the elements." ◆

PHOTOGRAPHS: ABOVE, MARK LOHMAN; RIGHT, PETE BLEYER



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Strips of maple individually nailed to the wall give the impression of decorative panels. Alternating verticals and horizontals add visual character.



in a new LIGHT

Adding windows and subtracting walls brightens this bath

WRITTEN BY NANCY A. RUHLING
PHOTOGRAPHS BY TRIA GIOVAN/ JS CREATIONS, INC.

Lots of light and more privacy are what this spacious, spalike master bath needed from a remodel. Problem is, the house where the master bath is located, in Dix Hills, New York, is far from secluded.

So the owners, a real estate broker and a banker, hooked up with Jack Snyder, co-owner of Ambience Interior Design in Los Angeles, who maximized the advantages of the suburban setting. He brought in light via two skylights in the ceiling of the 375-square-foot space and by adding five windows in the



In a space dominated by clean lines and sharp angles, the curves of this storage unit provide a pleasing aesthetic jolt. Its neutral metal tone contrasts nicely with warm wood.



outer wall, where the tub and shower were placed. He then sandblasted the central portions of the shower windows, and added pleated blinds over the tub windows to create a decorative element that doubles as a striking privacy stripe.

"The blinds, which can close from the bottom or the top, create a continuous frosted line around the room," Snyder says. "And the shower's frosted glass, which goes from the chest to the knees, allows the couple to look out without being seen."

By pairing industrial materials and stone with warm woods, Snyder turned the bright space into a heavenly haven. Brushed stainless steel, found in the two-bather soaking tub, 7-foot-long trough sink, and shower floor and ceiling, gives a slick urban look.

The limestone counter and maple drawers of the floating vanity help tone down the sheen found elsewhere in the space. Horizontal and vertical maple strips form the backsplash and create an unusual Asian-inspired decorative element. "The contrasting grid on the wall

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Large, sandblasted windows contribute both light and privacy to the corner shower. A bench adds both comfort and safety, and overhead lights take over when the sun goes down.



ABOVE: A faucet with a single handle is itself sleek and contemporary, but mounting it on the wall also helps keep the vanity top free from clutter.



forms a band around the room that ties everything together," Snyder says.

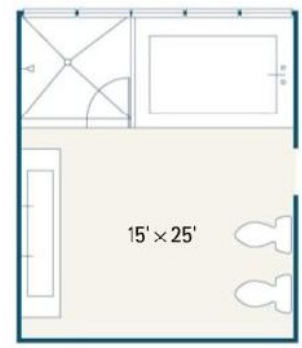
The soothing feeling the owners sought is brought out in the details. The pale blue/green slate floor, which changes color with the light, has radiant heating. A rubber membrane on the underside of the jetted tub mutes the sound of rushing water. Even the steam shower was designed with luxury in mind: There is a fold-down bench that encourages lingering.

"The bathroom is extremely relaxing," the husband says. "The radiant heating is the best thing in the world. Every time I step in there, it makes me feel that I'm in a place I would like to be."

There is no need any more, he adds, to book time at an expensive spa. ◆

> "The contrasting grid on the wall forms a band around the room that ties everything together."





ABOVE: A 15×25-foot, high-ceilinged bathroom runs the risk of looking cavernous, but a smart arrangement of meaty elements tames the space, making it pleasantly roomy instead.

LEFT: The strong angles and clean lines of the stainless steel tub easily make it the focal point of the space. The curvy stool, made of bent plywood, amplifies the bathtub's geometric grace.

FLOOR PLAN: STEVEN STANKIEWICZ

SEE BUYING GUIDE FOR DETAILS

breathing SPACE

A glass-wrapped bath enjoys privacy and a treetop view

WRITTEN BY MERVYN KAUFMAN
PHOTOGRAPHS BY CASEY DUNN
STYLED BY ADAM FORTNER





LEFT: Fixed glass panes separate the sun porch from the bath, but no panes exist along the exterior wall, so furniture fabrics are weatherproof. Wainscoting is the same standing-seam metal that was used to clad much of the house's exterior.

RIGHT: White Carrara marble on the tub deck is matched by the look of the mosaic tiles that line the 5½×8-foot shower enclosure. The marble repeats to top the stainless steel vanity.

The site near Barton Creek, in the western part of Austin, Texas, is where Barbara and Sam Granett envisioned a wood-framed contemporary house with a totally private upstairs master suite. Their architect, Mell Lawrence, FAIA, of Mell Lawrence Architects in Austin, created a plan that, he says, would afford the couple expansive views of a nature preserve as well as a distant golf course and, of course, the creek.

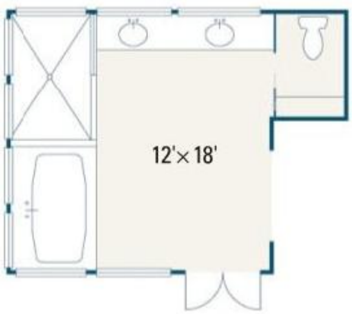
SEE BUYING GUIDE FOR DETAILS





The wide-open feel of the bathroom does have its limits; the commode sits in a private space all its own.

SEE BUYING GUIDE FOR DETAILS





ABOVE: Wrapped by windows on three sides, this bathroom is laid out to commune with the surrounding natural setting.

RIGHT: The interior wall of the shower is tiled half way up to conceal plumbing and provide a place to install controls. The top section of the wall reverts to glass.

FLOOR PLAN: STEVEN STANKIEWICZ

Not long ago, the home was sold to new owners Susan and Glen Natiello, who adapted quickly to life in a glass house. "The bathroom has the feeling of really being outdoors," says Susan. "The sun comes up in the morning, and the entire space is flooded with light." To shut out some of that blazing sunlight and also ensure privacy, there are waterproof roller shades that can be pulled down, plus similar shades in the adjacent sun porch, which is entirely open to the outdoors.

The color palette here is dominated by strong wood tones, starting with fir on the ceiling, from which lighting fixtures hang, plus structural elements made of waterproof redwood that's been stained a warm gray. The floor in the bath is ipe, a hard Brazilian walnut with a color wash that makes it somewhat darker than natural. In the sun porch, grooves between flooring planks allow rainwater to drain into a scupper mounted discreetly outside.

Like the tub and tub deck, the shower is lined with what appears to be white ceramic tile. It isn't. "It's translucent glass tile," the new homeowner points out. "What makes it look white is the mortar that backs the tile." This same product forms the backsplash behind the two oval undermount sinks in the vanity. Above these sinks are white-painted wood-framed mirrors suspended from the ceiling.

Barbara holds many fond memories of the house and, specifically, the bathroom, which was designed for her: "We had envisioned this space upstairs as being a retreat from the public spaces downstairs, and it does face the most inspiring view. From deep inside the soaking tub, that view changes with every season." The effect, says Susan, simply, "is just beautiful." ◆

what's your tub style?

Some people retreat to the bathtub for a meditative soak; others prefer a relieving massage; and then there are those who just want to wash up and move on. Take our quiz to help you narrow down your options when shopping for this primary bathroom fixture. For each question, choose the answer that most closely matches your preference.

WRITTEN BY BILL PARTSCH



If time in the tub is more about washing away stress than getting cleaned up, go for a spalike soaker.

1. Your idea of a "long walk" is:
a. an all-day hike in the woods
b. a brisk stroll through the neighborhood
c. a couple of trips to the garage—and back

2. Your source for music on the go is:
a. an iPod
b. a CD player
c. whistling

3. In high school, you excelled at:
a. athletics
b. the arts
c. attendance

4. Top-notch TV these days basically boils down to:
a. *Countdown With Keith Olbermann*
b. *Dancing With the Stars*
c. watching Noggin with your kids

5. The highlight of your ideal vacation would be:
a. climbing a mountain
b. enjoying breathtaking scenery
c. not going to work

6. The next car you buy must have:
a. a powerful engine
b. good gas mileage
c. four rubber tires

7. In a sporting contest that doesn't include your favorite team, you root for:
a. the more gifted athletes
b. the more tenacious competitors
c. a more rapid conclusion

8. You go to a gym because:
a. it feels good to work out
b. it promotes cardiovascular health
c. it's next to the pizza place

9. At this time, you embrace the adage:
a. "No pain, no gain"
b. "Stop and smell the roses"
c. "Whatever"

Score two points for each "a" answer, one point for each "b," and zero for each "c." If your total is:

- 13-18: You might get a real charge out of a high-tech jetted tub.
- 7-12: You'll probably enjoy a spacious soaking tub.
- 6-0: To you, a tub is just a tub. You might want to get a basic model and look into snazzing up your shower. ◆

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Strivection SD®[2]	NO	YES	NO
La Mer™[4]	NO	NO	NO
Hydroxatone®	YES	YES	YES



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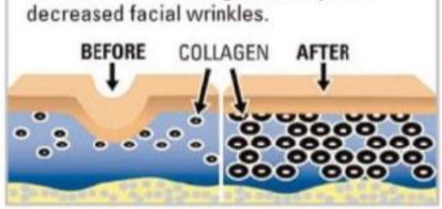
— Robin B., Los Angeles

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Resources

Buying Guide



Vintage Advantage
Pages 58–63:

Architect, Lise Claiborne Matthews. ***Contractor***, R&R Construction. ***Refrigerator*** and ***freezer***, Sub-Zero. ***Range***, Viking. ***Microwave***, KitchenAid. ***Dishwasher***, Bosch. ***Sinks***, Kohler. ***Faucets***, Chicago Faucets. ***Cabinet pulls***, Alno. ***Hanging pendant lamps***, George Nelson.



Easy and Breezy
Pages 64–69:

Architect and ***cabinets/island***, Stephen Roberts Holt. ***Contractor*** and ***countertops***, Evans Construction. ***Kitchen design***, Kochman Reidt Haigh. ***Stool***, R 20th Century.

A Glass Act
Pages 68–73:

Designer, Fu-Tung Cheng, Cheng Design & Construction, Inc. ***Structural engineer***, Calin Smith, Smith Engineering & Development Co. ***Contractor***, Blake Gilmore General Contractor. ***Oven*** and ***range***, Viking. ***Range hood***, Thermador. ***Refrigerator***, Sub-Zero. ***Dishwasher***, Miele. ***Microwave***, Sharp. ***Sinks***, Elkay. ***Faucet*** and ***soap dispenser***, Grohe. ***Instant hot water dispenser***, Franke. ***Cable lighting***, Tech Lighting. ***Glass tile*** (on cabinet), Ann Sacks. ***Countertops***, Geocrete by Cheng Design.





Opening Up
Pages 74–81:

Designer, Deborah Krasner, CCP, Kitchens for Cooks. ***Cabinetry/ island finishing***, Stefan Wilhelm, St. Martins Lane. ***Cabinet hardware*** and ***pendant light fixtures***, Hafele. ***Recessed lighting***, Halo. ***Wall*** and ***woodwork paint***, Fine Paints of Europe. ***Countertops***, Vermont Soapstone. ***Marble*** (on island), Johnson Marble and Granite. ***Wood-fired oven***, Earthstone. ***Wood elevator***, WB Fowler. ***Refrigerator***, ***double oven***, ***gas cooktop***, ***warming drawer*** and ***dishwasher***, KitchenAid. ***Faucet***, ***sink***, ***pot-filler*** and ***cork flooring***, Luxury Home Products. ***Custom vertical pot racks*** and ***tools for wood-fired oven***, Jon Taylor, Taylor Iron Works.



Breaking Out
Pages 82–89:

Architect, Heather Trossman Architecture & Planning. ***Designer***, Barbara Wolfe Interior Design. ***Contractor***, Pete Moffat Construction. ***Sheet metal countertops*** and ***backsplashes***, Mace Bollens, De Vincenzi Architectural Sheet Metal. ***Concrete countertops***, Buddy Rhodes Concrete Products. ***Stainless steel cabinet pulls*** and ***backsplash accessory holder***, Hafele. ***Sinks***, Blanco. ***Faucets***, Grohe. ***Refrigerator***, Sub-Zero. ***Cooktop***, DCS by Fisher & Paykel. ***Wall ovens***, Miele.

Kitchens Alfresco
Pages 90–97:

Pages 90–91: ***Conceptual drawing***, Matthew Devich, Alfresco Creations. ***Contractor***, Jesse De La O, De La O

→

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Construction. ***Stainless steel cabinets*** and ***drawers***, Bull Outdoor Products. ***Grill***, Cal Flame BBQ. ***Pizza oven***, Forno Bravo. ***Refrigerator***, Barbeques Galore. ***Sink***, American Standard. ***Faucet***, Price Pfister. ***Granite***, Jurassic Green, Ollin International. ***Lighting***, Home Expo. ***Ledgerstones*** and ***fieldstones***, Cultured Stone.

Pages 92–93: ***Designer***, Dee David, Dee David & Co, LLC. ***Granite***, Laurentian Green, Marblex Design International. ***Stainless steel cabinets***, Danver Stainless Cabinetry. ***Refrigerator drawers*** and ***ice maker***, Sub-Zero.



Grill, Wolf. ***Range hood***, Best by Broan. ***Sink***, Franke. ***Faucet***, Grohe. ***Backsplash tile***, California Gold Slate, Dal-Tile. ***Recessed lighting***, Lightolier. ***Ceiling fan***, Casablanca.

Pages 94–95: ***Architect***, Peter Schechter, Peter Schechter Architects.



In a New Light
Pages 98–103:

Designer, Jack Snyder, Ambience Interior Design. ***Faucets*** and ***tub filler***, Vola. ***Tub***, ***shower pan*** and ***shower ceiling panel***, custom, Diamond Spas, Inc.

Breathing Space
Pages 104–107:

Architect, Mell Lawrence, Mell Lawrence Architects. ***Contractor***, EDACO Custom Building. ***Wood cabinetry***, Johnson Cabinets & Woodworking. ***Sink***, ***tub*** and ***faucet***, Waterworks. ***Toilet***, Toto. ***Lighting***, Anta. ***Custom flooring***, EDACO. ***Cabinet hardware***, Alexander Marchant Architectural Hardware. ***Towels***, ***bathrobe***, ***canisters*** and ***small mirror***, Restoration Hardware. ***Slippers*** and ***silver tray*** (below sink), Pottery Barn. ***Silver tray*** (on vanity), Feather Your Nest. ***Rug***, SoCO Designs. ***Chairs*** and ***table***, Churchill's.



Sources

Alexander Marchant Architectural Hardware
512-462-1444
alexandermarchant.com

Alfresco Creations
949-679-8715
alfrescocreations.com

Alno
617-896-2700
alno.com

Ambience Interior Design
3047 Berkeley Circle
Los Angeles, CA 90026

American Standard
800-442-1902
americanstandard-us.com

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Barbara Wolfe Interior Design
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650-328-4194

Barbeques Galore
800-752-3085
bbqgalore.com

Best by Broan
800-558-1711
bestbybroan.com

Blake Gilmore General Contractor
6725 Heartwood Dr.
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Blanco
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- ❑ 157

Cabinets & Countertops
- ❑ 201
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Faucets & Sinks
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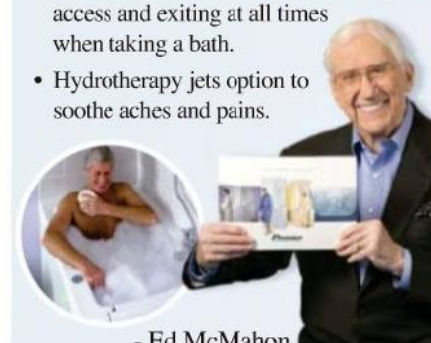
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